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THE PRESS OF WESTERN NEW-YORK





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## The Bath Gazette, and Genesee Advertiser.

BATH, County of Seneca, State of New-York: Published Weekly, by WILLIAM KERSEY and JAMES EDIE.

No. 5.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1797.

Vol. I.

"Nothing extenuate, nor hold up ought in malice."

### ADDRESS To the Public.

CUSTOM has long established it a precedent, that the Editors of a News-paper, on the commencement of its publication, should address the Public from whom they expect patronage from whom in the present instance they have no doubt but they will receive a generous encouragement. —Whether this precedent be good or bad, is a question which, as it relates to them, time only can determine. —One remark, however, they will risk —that if what is promised be performed, well-founded to their credit; but if they do not, they must expect to receive the pointed censure of their Patrons.

Although long as this GAZETTE has been promised, All the Editors thereof suppose an apology to its friends almost unnecessary: for every man, every inhabitant of this Western Country well knows the difficulty of moving; of procuring mechanics even to make their houses comfortable: —ininitely more then, must be the

non, collective citizens, —happi-  
ness, and prosperity,

Wm. KERSEY,  
JAMES EDIE.

Bath, Dec. 21, 1796.

#### AUTHENTIC.

Translation of a Note from the Minister of the French Republic, to the Secretary of State of the United States.

LEGATION OF PHILADELPHIA.  
(continued from our last)

the president on the 21st June, '94, decide that the ship William taken out of the limits of the waters of the United States, should be delivered to the captor; and on the 3d July, '94, did he not decide that the Pilgrim had been taken in the waters of the United States, and that of course she should be given up to the owners? In these cases the president not only decided on matters, the cognizance of which had been assigned to the tribunals, but he has to have a retrospective effect to his own decision with the protecting line of the United States, and he was not notified to the minister of the republic, till the 8th November, '94.

Not satisfied with permitting the 10th article of the treaty to be violated by its agents and tribunals, the federal government also suffered the English to avail themselves of advantages interdicted to them by that article. They armed in the ports of the United States, brought in, and repaired their prizes, and in a word, found in them a certain asylum.

Thus the English privateer Trusty, Captain Hall, was armed at Baltimore to cruise against the French, and sailed notwithstanding the complaint of the con-

and the Secretary of State assured him, that he wrote to the governor of Virginia, to have justice rendered him. But this justice was limited to investigations made with such slowness, that five months after, this affair was not finished; and on the 24th February, '95, the Secretary of State contented himself with sending to the predecessor of the undersigned, the dispatches of the lieutenant governor, dated the 10th October, '94, by which he announces, that he ordered the commandant of the militia of Norfolk to make the necessary enquiries for enabling the executive of Virginia, to render to the republic the justice it had a right to expect. The result of these enquiries is not known. However, the fact about which the minister Fanchet complained to the Secretary of State was notorious, and painful researches were not necessary to convince himself of it. Do we not find in this proceeding a formal desire to elude the treaties, and to favor the English?

If the government of the United States had wished to maintain itself in that impartiality which its duties prescribed, if it had wished freely to execute the treaties, it would not have waited, every time that the English infringed them, for the minister to solicit its justice. —Should it not have given instructions so precise, that the governors of the States and subaltern officers of the federal government might know what duties they had to fulfil, in order to maintain the execution of treaties? Why have the most emergency orders (such as the Secretary of State, Randolph, mentions) been given, when the support of the neutrality, inviolate in favor of the English, came in question? Why have the measures taken by the federal government operated with so much slowness when France was interested? Why, in fact, have the multiplied chains of her ministers never produced the redress of the grievances of which they complained?

(to be continued)



HISTORY  
OF THE  
PRESS IN WESTERN NEW-YORK

From the Beginning to the Middle of the Nineteenth Century

BY FREDERICK FOLLETT

With a Preface By  
WILBERFORCE EAMES

With Facsimile

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## P R E F A C E



The New York Press Association was founded in 1853, the first meeting being held at Elmira on September 8th of that year, under the name of a "Convention of the Editors and Publishers of Western and Southern New York." Prior to that date, however, the editors and printers of the state had celebrated their profession and art on more than one occasion in an annual "Festival," the most noted of which is the one which resulted in the publication now reprinted. Such a festival had been held early in 1846; and in the latter part of the same year a number of the active and retired newspaper men of Rochester made elaborate preparations for another one to be held in that city on the one hundred and forty-first anniversary of Franklin's birthday, January 18th, 1847. Committees of Arrangement and Correspondence were formed, who sent out numerous invitations to their fellow craftsmen, urging their attendance, and asking sentiments for toasts, and reminiscences of early printing in the Western Counties of the state. The result of all this preparation was an assemblage at the dinner in the large hall of the Blossom House of one hundred and sixtyfour guests, whose names are given in the proceedings, for the publication of which a special committee was named. It was resolved also to include with the proceedings a history of the Press of Western New York, the whole to be issued in pamphlet form; and the material which had been collected for this purpose by different members of the craft and placed in the Committee's hands, was turned over to Colonel Frederick Follett, an ex-editor and printer, who at this time was Post-Master at Batavia, he having agreed to put it in shape for publication.

Colonel Follett himself had prepared for the festival a sketch of the press of Genesee County. His instructions from the Committee of Publication were that the history should cover that portion of the state lying west of a line running north and south through Seneca Lake, comprising in alphabetical order the following named Counties, the dates in parentheses being of the earliest printing mentioned:—Alleghany, Cattaraugus (1818), Cayuga (1798), Chautauque (1817), Chemung (1822), Erie (1811), Genesee (1807), Livingston (1817), Monroe (1816), Niagara (1822), Orleans (1822), Ontario (1797), Seneca (1816), Steuben (1796), Tioga (1800), Tompkins, Wayne (1817), Wyoming (1828), and Yates (1823). For two of these Counties, Alleghany and Tompkins, no responses were received from those to whom requests for information had been addressed, and as a result they had to be left out entirely.

In his general remarks at the end of the history, Colonel Follett says: "I have endeavored in the preceding pages to give as faithful a History of the Newspaper Press of Western New-York, as the materials furnished me, and my own recollection on the subject, will permit. If, in reference to some of the Counties, that history is not so close and full as could have been desired, the fault is attributed to those who ought to have felt most solicitude on the subject; but who, from negligence, or it may be, the press of other avocations, have omitted to communicate, although repeatedly requested so to do by the Committee of Correspondence previous to the Festival, and subsequently by the Committee of Publication, with either of those Committees, or with myself, furnishing such facts as would have contributed to the correction of the same."

Frederick Follett was born in Gorham, Ontario County, Western New York, on November 1st, 1804, being the youngest of eight children of Frederick Follett, a pensioner of the American Revolution. He was educated in his native town, and in February, 1819, began to learn the printer's art in

the office of his elder brother, Oran Follett, who had just started publishing at Batavia a newspaper called the "Spirit of the Times." In May, 1825, Oran Follett removed to Buffalo, and Frederick became owner and editor of the paper. In the following year he was married; and in the anti-masonic excitement which followed the disappearance of William Morgan, he took an active part in defending Masonry. In 1830, when another paper called the "People's Press" was merged with the "Spirit of the Times," he went into partnership with Daniel P. Adams under the firm name of Follett & Adams, which continued for a short time only. In August, 1836, Mr. Follett sold the newspaper and went to Texas, to serve in the "army of liberation" under Gen. Sam Houston; but the war having ended before he got there, he returned home and headed an unsuccessful expedition to the newly discovered copper-mines of the Lake Superior region. In August, 1837, he resumed the editorship of his old paper, the "Spirit of the Times," and continued in that capacity until June, 1840, when the establishment passed into the hands of Lucas Seaver, and Mr. Follett, in partnership with Peter Lawrence, started a new paper in Batavia, called the "Batavia Times and Farmers and Mechanics Journal." Two or three months later, Mr. Lawrence retired, and Mr. Follett continued the publication alone until September, 1843, when it was merged with the "Spirit of the Times," under Lucas Seaver. The occasion of this change was the appointment of Mr. Follett to be Post-Master at Batavia, which office he held until 1849, when he became Canal Commissioner of the state, retaining that office until 1856. He afterwards lost all of his property in an unsuccessful business venture; and his wife dying, he removed to New York City about 1865, and accepted a position there in the Custom House, which he kept until his death on January 18th, 1891, in his eighty-seventh year. A biographical sketch appeared in the New York Times of January 20, 1891.

New York, February 27, 1920.

W. E.

The reprint, as made on the following pages, contains only THE HISTORY OF THE PRESS OF WESTERN NEW YORK by Frederick Follett. The History is, in the original pamphlet, preceded by the Proceedings of the Printers' Festival, held on the 141st Anniversary of the Birthday of Franklin in the city of Rochester. These Proceedings have been left out. They contain some little information that is, perhaps, important, but could not have been extracted without leaving an unsatisfactory impression of being too fragmentary. As far as the history itself is concerned, it has been reprinted literally.

The Facsimile reproduction of the Earliest Newspaper printed in Western New York extant, has been made after the suggestion of Mr. Wilberforce Eames, through the courtesy of the Harvard College Library, the owner of the original.

INTRODUCTION

TO THE

HISTORY OF THE PRESS

IN

WESTERN NEW-YORK

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In undertaking the task of writing out, or compiling a "History of the Press in Western New-York," I confess I enter upon the duty which the partiality of the Committee have selected me to perform, with no little distrust of my capacity to do it that justice which the subject demands, or which the Committee and the public at large, and the Profession in particular, have a right to expect from him who shall undertake it. But having consented to the task, it only remains for me to discharge its requirements to the best of my ability. I would rather, it is true, the mantle had fallen upon the shoulders of some one else—older and wiser heads among the "Craft" could have been found—those who could have done the subject full and ample justice—but I am also aware that it is not always convenient or practicable to engage their services in such an undertaking. Although at this stage of the task I cannot assure the Committee that their expectations are in the least degree to be answered, still, however, I think I may promise them one thing—which is, that

"I will nothing extenuate,  
Or set down aught in malice,"

in what I may have to say in relation to the Press of Western New-York. Having retired from its duties, its cares, and its perplexities,—having a conscience void of offence against any who have preceded, or who may be now in the active prosecution of their labors in that interesting department of life, I think I may claim for myself the merit of being a disinterested witness.

The "Press" and a "Printer!" Who is not proud to be associated with the one, and classed with the other? Never has the genius of man been able to offer to the world, viewed in all its parts, any thing that at all compares with that of the Press. Its capacity for good and evil is unbounded. As an engine of moral and political power it has no equal—it is the grand regulator of the world, and its power is alike felt and acknowledged, as well by the prince on the throne, as by the dweller in the hamlet. It is the lever by which the great operations of the world, political, moral, and social, are moved. How vastly important then, that this power is not misplaced.

It is said there are certain classes in society who are literally good for nothing—that in almost any position, as the geologist would say, they are “out of place.” This remark, however, loses all its force when applied to printers, as the very reverse of it is true—they seem to be “in place,” in all the varieties of situations in which their lot may be cast. Let the reader cast his eye around him. In one of the Territories of this Republic a Printer may be recognized, who has exchanged the stick and the case, and been robed with executive power,—again, among those “grave and reverend signors” who occupy that most august body, the Senate of the United States, and there you discover a Printer—look among the fighting men of our country, in the ranks and clothed with official dignity, and there you will find the Printer—look, also, among the Divines, the Doctors, the Politicians, and indeed, among almost every branch of industry or calling in society, and Printers are to be found! And last, though by no means least, the Craft can point with proud and glorious satisfaction to Benjamin Franklin!—He is an example, of whom, not only Printers, but the world may be proud. The Society of him who called, and tamed, the lightning from the clouds, has been sought and courted by the proudest monarchs of the earth! Other benefactors of mankind have lived—but none whose brow has been wreathed with prouder laurels than that of Franklin.

It may not be inappropriate to the designs of the Committee, and the purposes of the “Franklin Festival,” to place together in this convenient form, a short account of the first discovery, and the early progress of the “Art of Printing.” Such accounts, I am aware, are not without an existence—but in very many instances they are placed beyond the reach of the mass of readers, by being coupled with other matter, thereby rendering them too cumbrous and expensive to be brought into the circle of the general reader. Presuming that I shall be pardoned for such a digression, I will endeavor to furnish such a synopsis, which I doubt not, will be new, and perhaps, interesting, to many who may be induced from curiosity or otherwise to peruse these pages, if not to some of the members of the Craft.

Previous to the discovery of the Art of Printing, the thoughts of men were preserved and given to the world, (and a very circumscribed portion of it, too, owing to the great price which was demanded and received for manuscript books,) in writing. At this age of the world it is very difficult, if not almost impossible, to realize the existence of such a state of things. Dark, indeed, must have been the age, when knowledge and learning were thus pent-up, and shut out from the world! But a brighter day was in store, and soon the Art of Printing burst upon the world like a flood of light—shooting its bright effulgence into the inmost recesses, and corners of the habitable globe!—awakening a new spirit, with higher and nobler aspirations, in the breast of man!—the store house of knowledge was unlocked, and its treasures which had been so long hidden from the “vulgar gaze,” scattered to the winds of heaven.

It is impossible to say at what particular juncture of the world the germ



of the Art of Printing took its rise, or had its origin. Those who are deep skilled in Antiquarian researches have discovered that for at least two thousand years before the present era, the art or method of reproducing impressions, although rude and imperfect in their design and execution, had an existence. Egypt furnishes abundant evidence of this. The art of coloring was practiced by the Egyptians, and was continued by them until a more advanced state of society, and the want of something of a more general application, induced them not only to apply the art to inscriptions, at first painted or engraved upon the statues of their deities, but also entered into the more common affairs of life.

The site of the ancient city of Babylon also presents some very remarkable evidences of the existence of the art of imprinting, which consists of inscriptions upon the bricks used in building.—Some of these early evidences of the art are now in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, the British Museum, and the Library of the East India Company. The imprint will compare with those stamped upon the coarser article of earthen-ware.

Other specimens of Assyrian art, showing still greater perfection and progress in it might be evidenced. China is by no means destitute of interest in this particular, and many cases might be cited to show the existence of an art, closely approximating to that of Printing, long before it was known to the nations of Europe. But it is not my purpose to give a full and perfect expose of this subject, the readers of these pages will expect nothing more than a mere glance at the art in its progress to the era of its perfection, if indeed it may be said to have arrived at that proud eminence now.

Although it is fair and safe to assume that the art, in the rude state I have mentioned, existed among the inhabitants of the old world, it is a no less remarkable fact, that among the Greeks and Romans, original and ingenious as they were, scarcely a vestige has been left by them to show their knowledge of its existence.

Nothing can be shown as evidencing the existence of a knowledge of the art of transferring characters, even among nations comparatively civilized, from the times above referred to, until the intervention of a vast lapse of time, when an attempt was made at engraving pictures upon blocks of wood. Upon this point great diversity of opinion exists as to time, but I believe the best writers on the fine arts concur in the opinion that the art was invented in the latter part of the thirteenth century, by a "brother and sister of the illustrious family of Cunio, lords of Ivola, in Italy." The book made by these youthful artists, for they were twins, and only sixteen years of age, is the first evidence we have of block-printing.—If any of my readers have the curiosity to examine this subject more particularly, I would refer them to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, edited by Professor Napier.

Thus far the art was confined to single blocks, and its progress slow and tedious. Venice furnishes good evidence of the existence of this art among its inhabitants at an early day, and from an edict issued by the government,

bearing date 1441, interdicting the importation of "work of the said art that is printed or painted on cloth or on paper, that is to say, altar-pieces (or images), and playing cards," it is clearly evident that the art was by no means confined to the Venetians, but had spread over the continent to such a degree as to seriously threaten the prosperity of the artists of that city. As connected somewhat with the Art of Printing, I will here state, although the particular time cannot be settled, that playing cards were in existence in 1254, for in that year they were interdicted by St. Louis on his return from the Crusade—and also by the Council of Cologne in 1281. They were first introduced into Germany in 1300.

From single blocks, the next advance in the art of Printing was by a series of blocks, and it was by this means that the first books were printed, among the most important of which was, the "*Historiæ Veteris et Novi Testamenti seu Biblia Pauperum*." Its extent was forty leaves, printed on one side, and on as many separate and distinct blocks—the blank sides of the sheets then pasted together, forming one leaf. It has been impossible to locate the exact time at which this book was printed, but it is supposed to have been somewhere between 1420 and 1430.

Passing over minor points, and I have been compelled to do so in more instances than one, I am now brought to that most important and interesting era in the Art of Printing, in the true and literal signification of that term; and which also involves the perplexing and still agitated question, as to where and by whom was it invented?—Similar contentions have arisen upon other subjects—the birth-place of Homer was claimed and stoutly contended for by many cities, all deeming it an especial honor to have given to the world so illustrious a personage. So with the Art of Printing. Harlem, Strasbourg, and Mentz, claim to have been the nursery from which sprung an art which has exercised such a mighty power and influence on civilization, and contributed in so eminent a manner to the cultivation of the human intellect. Other places have interposed their claims, but there seems to be no proof to sustain them. The best writers upon this subject, indeed it seems to be almost universally admitted, agree that to one of the three cities above named, belongs the honor in question.

It will not be expected that I shall go at length into the discussion as to the place, or to whom, belongs the honor of the invention of Printing in its true sense. To do so would occupy too much space, and would, after all, be an unprofitable discussion.

Harlem interposes a claim for one of its citizens, Laurence Koster, or Laurent Janszoon Koster (or Custos.) The support of this claim rests mainly upon the narrative in the *Bataviæ* of Hadrinus Junius, written in 1575, and published in 1588. But little credit is given to the truth of this narrative—some calling in question, (and among that number Santander), the very existence of such a man as Koster! There are others, who being unable to decide between the conflicting claims, are willing to divide the hon-

or, and while they are disposed to concede to others the credit of the discovery of Printing with moveable types, claim for Koster the merit of inventing printing from blocks.

From the best reading I have been able to give the subject, although as I have said before, there are conflicting claims, and backed as some of them are by ingenious and plausible arguments, still I am decidedly of the opinion that to John Gutenberg, a native of Mentz, belongs the discovery of the Art of Printing. The proof in favor of this proposition, to my mind, is full and satisfactory. The story of his having stolen the types of Koster, is too ridiculous to need even an attempt at refutation.

The first printed edition of the Bible, from cut metal types, was issued by Gutenberg, in 1450, the completion of which is said to have taken seven years—so that the work must have been commenced in 1443. John Fust (commonly called Faust,) and Peter Schœffer, formerly partners of Gutenberg, but into whose hands the establishment had fallen on the failure of Gutenberg, used the same type in their edition of the Psalter printed in 1457 and 1459. The edition issued in 1457, is the first book ever printed bearing the name of the place where printed, those of its printers, and the date of the year when printed!

Gutenberg, after his failure, started the business anew, and as it appears, with complete success, for in 1465, he abandoned the business, and “entered into the service of Elector Adolphus of Nassau, as one of his band of gentlemen pensioners, with a handsome salary, as appears from the letters patent, dated the 17th of January, 1465.” He died on the 24th of February, 1468.

Fust and Schœffer were neither of them original Printers. The former was a wealthy goldsmith, and the latter, a scribe. They were probably induced to enter the business with Gutenberg, simply as a matter of money-making.—There is no doubt, however, but they contributed very greatly to the perfection of the art in that day. To Schœffer is the world indebted for the first suggestion of casting type in matrices. These men continued the business, and in addition to the Psalter issued in 1457 and 1459, they also published it in 1490 and 1502, and what is a little remarkable, it was always printed on the same type. In 1460, they published the *Constitutiones Clementis V.*, and in 1462, the celebrated Latin Bible. Fust lived but a few years to enjoy this triumph of his art, for he was carried off by the plague, in Paris, about the year 1466. Schœffer survived him many years, and is supposed to have died in 1502.

A controversy has existed in England as to when, and by whom, Printing was introduced into that country. In my judgment, however, no serious difficulty exists in this matter. To William Caxton no doubt belongs the honor of first introducing the art into England. This has been denied, and the chaplet sought to be placed upon the brow of Frederick Corsellis—but the attempt has utterly failed. It has been supposed, also, that the first printing was done at Oxford, but this falls to the ground with the attempt to rob

Caxton of the honor due his name, for the first printing done in England, was a book issued by him, from his press established at Westminster, probably in one of the chapels attached to the Abbey, entitled the "Game of Chess." The completion of this work took place on the last day of March, 1474, and from this must be dated the dawn of the Art of Printing in Old England. Caxton died in 1494, aged 82 years.

Printing may be said to have been introduced into the Colonies of America, in January, 1639, for in that year a Press and Types arrived, having been shipped from England by the Rev. Jesse Glover, who, however, died on the passage. The Printer engaged to accompany the Press from England, Stephen Daye, on arriving at Cambridge, Mass, set up the business, and the first work that emanated from this attempt to introduce Printing into the Colonies, was the "Freeman's Oath," which was followed by an Almanac. To show the favorable light in which this undertaking was viewed, at that early day, the following may be taken as evidence. It is from the records of the General Court of Massachusetts:

"Att a General Court held att Boston, on the eighth Day of the eighth moneth, 1641, Steeven Daye being the first that sett upon Printing, is graunted 300 acres of land, where it may be convenient without prejudice to any town."

Printers at that early day, like those of the Craft in more modern times, were by no means exempted from the ills of life—for in 1642, it appears from the Records, that Daye was under the necessity of pledging one of his lots in Cambridge, to secure the payment "for a cow, calf, and heifer"—that in 1643, for some dereliction of duty, the particulars of which are not stated, the "Court ordered that Steeven Daye, shall be released, giving £100 bond for his appearance." In 1649, he becoming embarrassed with debts, was succeeded by Samuel Green. In 1668, Daye died.

In 1660, Marmake Johnson, a Printer, was sent over from England, with another Press and Types, which also was established at Cambridge, and the particular design of which was to print the Bible in the Indian language. Johnson brought a letter with him from his patrons in England, which, among other things, contains the following very singular announcement:

"We have out of our desire, to further a worke of soe great consernment [the printing of the Bible in question] agreed with an able Printer for three years upon the terms and condition, enclosed. Mr. Johnson, the Printer, and for his incurragement in this undertaking of printing the bible in the Indian language, his name may bee mentioned with others as a Printer and person that hath bine instrumentall therein; for whose diet, lodging and washing wee desire you to take care of."

Johnson was unfortunate—got into difficulty—was fined by the Court—turned out of employment when the Bible was completed, and finally died in 1675. Green, who succeeded Daye, carried on the business at Cambridge for fifty years, and died in 1702, aged 87.

These men, therefore, GLOVER, DAYE, GREEN, and JOHNSON, may be regarded as the Fathers of the Art on this Continent. It is impossible at this day to tell the trials and adverse fortunes, the perplexities and the hardships, through which they had to pass. That they were many and grievous, I can well imagine. But they were the pioneers in a glorious undertaking and thrice gloriously has it succeeded!

At the dates above enumerated, no newspaper had yet been published in the Colonies, nor was there, until 1704, April 20, when the first number of the *News Letter*," by John Campbell, Printer, book-seller, and Post-Master, was issued at Boston. In 1693, William Bradford commenced the Printing Business in New York.—This was the dawn of Printing in the "Empire State." What mighty revolutions have since been wrought! From the fountain thus established, innumerable streams have sprung into existence, fertilizing and enriching the proud domains of Art, Literature, and Science, until our noble State has assumed a commanding pre-eminence among the sisters of this mighty Republic! Long may she occupy that enviable position.

This much have I deemed it, not only proper, but necessary to say, before entering upon subjects that more properly and legitimately belong to the "History of the Press in Western New-York." It struck me, and I doubt not it will be so viewed by the Craft generally, that it would be essentially proper to give this running account of the earliest introduction of Printing into this country.—Thus a foundation has been laid for what may follow.

FREDERICK FOLLETT.

Batavia, March 16, 1847.





# History of The Press in Western New-York

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It may be well before going any further, to settle the bounds of the field marked out by the Committee of the Franklin Festival, in which I am to labor. Originally, it was denominated the "Genesee County," but now wears the distinctive appellation of "Western New-York" and embraces, if I am correctly informed, that portion of the State lying west of a line running north and south through Seneca Lake. Its settlement may probably be said to have commenced about the year 1787. An enumeration of its inhabitants in 1790, showed a population of 1100. What a contrast with the Western New-York at the present day. The Counties handed over to me for the purpose of the present publication are Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauque, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Ontario, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates. These counties, or most of them at all events, belong to what may, perhaps, with propriety, be denominated Western New-York—but some of them are without the pale of what may be fairly termed the "Genesee Country." The territory embraced in the above counties, contained, as appears by the census of 1845, a population of 682,823. In the short space of fifty-nine years, what a complete change has come over the face of the country—then, a howling wilderness—now, converted into cities and villages!—then, peopled by bands of roving savages,—now, teeming with a dense population of hardy and industrious men, through whose toil the wilderness has literally been made to blossom like the rose! This is the result of civilization, coupled with industry, intelligence, and indomitable perseverance.

## STEBEN COUNTY

This County seems to be the first in which an attempt was made to establish a Newspaper Press in Western New York. In 1796, William Kersey and James Edie, commenced at Bath, the publication of a paper entitled the "Bath Gazette and Genesee Advertiser."

In 1816 or '17, David Rumsey commenced, at Bath, the publication of the "Bath Gazette."

About the same time Benjamin Smead started a paper called the "Steuben Patriot," to which was soon after appended, "and Allegany," making the amended title read, "Steuben & Allegany Patriot."

In the fall of 1819, Erastus Shepard commenced the publication of the "Western Republican," and continued it until 1822, when the materials went back to Elmira, and the publisher to an eight years' foremanship in the office of James Bogart, at Geneva.

Charles Williamson, if I mistake not, is considered as the founder of Bath. He was the agent of some foreign land-owners in Western New-York, which was the means, no doubt, of imparting to him, and to his acts, an influence far greater than was possessed by others. His imagination, I am told, did not stop at the founding of a Village, but soared in the prospective, to the development of the resources of a City. For this purpose, a race course was laid out, a Press was established, and various things were done, which were deemed essential by him to mark the founding of a magnificent city—at least in the imagination! The great power and influence of the "Patron of the West," as Mr. Williamson was sometimes called, did not save the "Gazette & Advertiser" from a fate too common among similar establishments of a later day. How long it managed to keep up an existence—what became of its materials or its publishers, are questions entirely out of my power to answer.

Benjamin Smead relinquished the business to two of his sons in 1824 or '25, and the paper has since been published under the title of the "Farmer's Advocate."

David Rumsey, who made the attempt in 1816 or '17, to revive the old Gazette, was from Salem, Washington County. The attempt seems not to have been a successful one, as the paper was continued only about a year, when the materials were disposed of to Mr. Cowdery, who took them to "Olean Point."

Thus have I been compelled to turn off "Old Steuben," with a mere skeleton picture of what her press is, and has been. This is no fault of mine, neither is it the fault of the Committee who originally had this matter in charge. It is the more to be regretted, as Steuben was the first county in which an attempt was made in Western New York to establish a Newspaper Press.—The Printers of that county have been desired to furnish the data upon which a more full and perfect sketch of its rise and progress could have been traced. They have failed to do it, with them rests the fault.

## ONTARIO COUNTY

The next County in order, in which the Printing business was established, is Ontario County. Lucius Carey, in 1797, tempted by the love of gain, or the more philanthropic principle of spreading light and knowledge into the dark recesses of an almost unpeopled country, selected Geneva, as his headquarters, from which he issued the "Geneva Gazette and Genessee Advertiser." Either the good people of Geneva did not appreciate the motives which induced Mr. Carey to come among them, or for some other good and satisfactory cause, and which I am unable to say, for the records of the times are blind on this subject, true it is, however, that the attempt was a failure, for soon after, he removed the establishment to Canandaigua, and in 1802 sold it to a company of "ten federalists," who procured it to be "pub-



lished for the proprietors," by John K. Gould, who had previously been employed in the office of the Albany Sentinel. Under this arrangement, in May, 1803, the first number of the "Western Repository and Genesee Advertiser" was given to the world, the "Salam Editorial" being from the pen of Nathaniel W. Howell.

The paper was thus continued until October, 1804, when James D. Bemis became interested in the establishment as joint proprietor with Mr. Gould. Mr. B. soon became sole proprietor of the paper, and in 1828 disposed of it to Morse & Harocy. Various proprietors have since that period, been interested in the publication of the "Repository," until at the present time, it is in the hands of George L. Whitney.

Opposition, says the old adage, is the life of business, and the "Repository and Advertiser" were not long permitted to enjoy, like Alexander Selkirk, the consciousness of undisputed monarchy, for 1806 ushered into existence the "Ontario Messenger," by John A. Stevens.

Isaac Tiffany was the projector of the "Ontario Freeman," a little paper started in the same village in 1803. Its light was soon after extinguished, and all memorial of its doings have passed away with it.

Eben Eaton, whose brother was somewhat conspicuous in the famous Tripoli expedition, started a paper at Geneva in 1800, called the "Impartial Observer and Seneca Museum." It lived but a short time.

The "Geneva Gazette," by James Bogart, was established at the delightful village of Geneva, at the foot of Seneca Lake, in the year 1806.

A. N. Phelps, started a paper called the "Republican," at Canandaigua, in 1824. It soon after passed into the hands of Thomas B. Barnum, and was finally discontinued.

Another paper was for a time published in the same village by George Wilson and O. P. Jackson—but no particulars have been furnished in relation to it.

W. W. Phelps commenced in Canandaigua, in 1827, an Anti-masonic paper, with the title of "Phoenix," which soon after passed into the hands of R. Royce, and changed its name to that of "Freeman"—in 1836 it was joined to the "Repository," which paper was then in the hands of Orville L. Holley, and finally its name has become extinct.

In 1824 a small paper had its rise in the village of Naples. It was called the "Village Record." Who claims the honor of bringing it into existence, or when it took its exit, is more than I am able to chronicle.

This, so far as I have been furnished with the material, comprises the sum total of the Newspaper Press in the County of Ontario; and I am sorry to say it is woefully deficient in many of its parts. But what has become of the men who figured in their establishment? To this inquiry I propose

to devote a brief space, and will endeavor, so far as it can be done, to answer the interrogatory.

Of Lucius Carey, the man who first planted the standard of the Newspaper Press in Ontario County, I regret to say no means are at my disposal to trace his personal history from the time he disposed of his establishment in 1802. It is reasonable to conclude, however, that he has long since worked off his last page, and been distributed in the case prepared for all beings. I regret that so little is known of his early history, but am unable to supply the deficiency.

John K. Gould, who succeeded Mr. Carey and published the paper for the "proprietors," died in 1808. As an interesting reminiscence in the history of the "Repository and Advertiser," it may be stated that Judge Howell, who wrote its prospectus, still lives to peruse its columns in the 44th year of its existence! Blest with age and honors, he has survived; a living witness to the mighty improvements that have been going on around him.

James D. Bemis who became interested with Mr. Gould, in the publication of the "Repository and Advertiser," in 1804, is still living at Canandaigua. Mr. B. has been extensively engaged in Printing, Bookselling and Binding in that village.

I will here state, that in relation to Mr. Bemis, I shall be a little more particular, and give the facts in his case a little more minutely, than I shall do in other cases. His age—the position he occupies in relation to the Press in Western New York, demands this much at my hands. Mr. B. first came to Canandaigua, 15th January, 1804, and was then about 21 years of age. His first business was the establishment of a Bookstore, being in partnership with the proprietors of the Albany Bookstore. In October of the same year, he sold out to Myron Holley, and was then induced to buy one half of the Printing establishment, for which he paid \$700. In 1810 he purchased back the bookstore of Mr. Holley, and added to the establishment a Bindery. He was also Agent for Ink Makers, Type Founders and Press Manufacturers. By the way, however, for many years he made his own ink.

Previous to the opening of the Canal in 1825, Mr. Bemis was very extensively engaged in the Book and Stationery business. Instead of procuring articles in either branch of business in New-York, as is now the case, Merchants were very generally through the West, supplied from his establishment, swelling his sales from 20 to \$30,000 a year. The whole of this immense business, aside and in connection with the other branches of industry in which he was engaged, was done under his own eye. He was thus compelled to work all day—and, to keep up the Editorial department of his paper, and his private correspondence, write half the night.

Many apprentices have gone forth from his employ, and many of them can bear ample testimony to the substantial benefits they have received, in their

efforts to buffet the waves of fortune, at his hands. These efforts have always been received with favor by him, and he has never been backward in contributing to their complete success. He is the oldest representative of the Newspaper Press in Western New-York, now living, and is looked upon with no little veneration and regard by those who are now actively engaged in that branch of business.

It must be recollected that in 1803, the "Repository and Advertiser" was the only medium for the distribution of the intelligence of the day, west of Utica—that its materials were rude and uncouth—yet at this establishment was done all the job work for the land offices, together with the legal and business advertising, for all the region west of Onondaga, and in some instances, from Canada. Its circulation was about 1000. The mode of circulating papers, at that day, is by no means devoid of interest—but I am disposed to let Mr. Bemis tell it in his own way:—

"Not the least interesting part of the "Repository" establishment, was the post-riding, or mode of distribution, which affords an amusing contrast to the present lightning way of doing things. The most important route was the western, and he who supplied it was, in those days, of as great consequence as is now the superintendent of a railroad. Imagine a small, hump-back, cross-eyed, deaf—old man—and you may see honest Ezra Metcalf, who was as trustworthy as he was ugly—mounted on a skunk horse, and you have the post-rider. And now for his business: In an old-fashioned pair of saddle-bags, were stowed from 150 to 200 papers. On the top of this was a small portmanteau, containing the United States Mail, with a padlock; but whether the key was intrusted to the rider, as it might safely have been, is not remembered. Thus mounted, with tin horn in hand, which he blew when he got in the saddle, he set off,

'The herald of a noisy world,  
News from all quarters lumbering at his back.'

"The arrival and departure of 'old uncle Ezra,' was an event, and caused a gathering of divers citizens, who felt as much anxiety about it, and what he carried and fetched, as do our citizens for the movements of the railroad cars. Errands were sent by him, and he always had some word from our neighbors who lived thirty or a hundred miles off. Once in three months he would bring from the postmasters at Fort Niagara, Lewiston, Buffalo, Batavia, and other settlements, lists of letters to be published. His route from Canandaigua and back, was as follows: first, via Boughton Hill and Mann's Mills to Northfield, and the Genesee River, which he forded. This was a point where a tavern, a saw-mill, and a few other 'improvements,' were found. Thence north to Handford's Landing, perhaps to Charlotte, at the River's mouth, where was a store-house, and a few other buildings; then back to the Ridge Road, which led by Oak Orchard at Lewiston, then down to Youngstown and Fort Niagara. Returning to Lewiston, he went up the

River to the Falls, and to New Amsterdam, on Buffalo Creek, an Indian trading place where the whites had a few stores. This was his western terminus. Homeward, he came by the Four Mile Creek, Eleven Mile Creek, and Vandeventer's to Batavia, the seat of the Holland Land Company, and a place of some note; thence to Ganson's Settlement, the Genesee River through Hartford, Charleston, and Bloomfield, and Canandaigua, where he was waited for every Saturday, having been five days in performing his circuit."

This is a primitive picture, but many is the man and the woman still living, who can bear witness to its truthfulness—who can well remember the almost feverish anxiety with which the day of the coming of "old Ezra" was looked for by the tenants of the vast wilderness, and the joy or sorrow he was wont to bring among them, according to the tenor of the despatches of which he was the bearer. The above is also a picture of early printing in Western New-York. I can only hope that Mr. Bemis, one of its earliest pioneers, may yet long be spared among us, as a noble monument of fair and upright dealing—and that when he shall be finally gathered to his fathers, he may be welcomed with, "well done, good and faithful servant."

Isaac Tiffany, the founder of the "Ontario Freeman," in 1803, was originally from New-Hampshire. He first settled at Niagara, U. C., where he was for a time, Government, or King's Printer. His widow, who over fifty years ago bore him company from his native state, is still living, and a resident of Lockport. He was the father of Judge Tiffany, of Adrian, Michigan. The time of his death is not known.

John A. Stevens commenced the publication of the "Ontario Messenger" in 1806. He was a kind, affectionate and good hearted man, and very generally esteemed by all who knew him. He died some fifteen years since.

James Bogart, in 1806, established the "Geneva Gazette," and continued at its head for 27 years. The same paper is still continued, but it is in other hands, and whose I am unable to learn from the materials placed in my hands. These omissions are perplexing, but the fault is not mine. Mr. Bogart after leaving the Press has been Collector of Canal Tolls at Geneva, and still occupies a prominent position among the intelligent citizens of that thriving and delightful Village.

Of Eben Eaton, I can say nothing, for his name is not mentioned, except that he established a paper at Geneva in 1800.

A. N. Phillips, who commenced the publication of the "Republican" at Canandaigua in 1824, was a nephew of the somewhat celebrated M. M. Noah, of New-York—he continued its publication for a short time—sold out, and returned to New-York. If I mistake not he is dead. He was succeeded by

Thomas B. Barnum, who continued the paper for a few years. Mr. B. was a young man of respectable acquirements, but before time and experience

had given scope for their full and complete development, he was called to his last account.

W. W. Phelps started the "Phoenix" in 1827, the year succeeding the outrage upon the person of Morgan. The paper was intended as an organ of the Antimasonic party, which by that time had begun to assume a political aspect. It soon after passed into the hands of R. Royce, of whom I know nothing. Of Mr. Phelps, I can only say, that he has left the Press, and taken to the Pulpit. He joined the Mormons, and when last heard from, he was at Council Bluffs.

Orville L. Holley was for a time at the head of the "Repository" establishment. He is a man of more than ordinary talent, and while under his charge that paper was sustained with considerable ability. Mr. H. was afterwards Surveyor General of the State, and at one time, if I mistake not, associated with Mr. Ward, of New-York, in the publication of the "Anti-Masonic Review". I am informed he is now a resident of Troy, and has been the Editor of the "Albany Daily Advertiser."

Morse & Harvey took the "Repository" from Mr. Bemis. In 1835, Mr. Harvey died. Mr. Morse is still living, but not, I believe, connected with the Printing business. Since the death of Mr. Harvey, the paper has passed into various hands, and is now under the control and management of

George L. Whitney, through whose exertions and preserverance the former creditable reputation of the paper is kept up and sustained.

I regret very much that the means have not been placed within my reach by which the history of the "Ontario Messenger" could be traced up to the present time. It has passed through many hands since it was relinquished by Mr. Stevens. At one time it was under the control of Thomas B. Hahn, who relinquished it on being appointed postmaster of Canandaigua, but I cannot tell who are the conductors of it now.

There are some reminiscences connected with the "Messenger" office, personal to the writer of these pages, which I cannot refrain from mentioning. It was the first Printing Office that I ever beheld, and its workings were a mystery, too deep and subtle for my youthful mind to fathom. Having a brother, Oran Follett, an apprentice in that office, I was of course more frequently led to visit it than I should otherwise have done. It was in that office that I obtained the first money that I ever received from my own labor! The amount was 6¼ cents, and was the reward for my labor in folding a certain number of papers. These circumstances were no doubt the determining points, which finally induced me to become a Printer.

## MONROE COUNTY

Printing was first introduced into what now constitutes the City of Rochester, and present limits of Monroe County, in the year 1816. In years that



are past, the site of that city was familiarly known as the "Mill Yard!" In vain does the early settler look for the foot-path, the trail, that used to lead him to the fording-place of Genesee River. It is not so much the lapse of time that has obliterated these old land-marks, as it is the progressive and onward march of the arts and civilization. These have stripped the land of its forest-trees—have raised those many and valuable monuments of taste, religion, and industry, which are, I might almost say, the peculiar characteristics of the City of Rochester. Forty years ago, and Rochester was surrounded and embedded in a wilderness—then, instead of the busy hum of life, the progress of the destiny of man, the hammer of the mechanic and artizan, was only to be heard the roar of its cataract, the notes of the bird of night, or the howling wolf! But a change has come over the face of nature, and the wild and picturesque, have receded before the beautiful and substantial monuments of man's genius and industry, and reveal to our view the City of Rochester in all the pride of its young, but proud spirit.

Even in its infant state, Rochester had excited the hopes and aspirations of a member of the Craft. To the mind of Augustine G. Dauby, then an apprentice with Ira Merrill, in the office of the "Utica Patriot," it offered inducements for the establishment of a Printing Press. Accordingly, early in the year 1816, he commenced the publication of a small sheet, called the "Rochester Gazette." Sometime afterwards John Sheldon became associated with him. Mr. S., I believe, continued in the establishment about ten months, and then removed to Detroit. Oran Follett was, for a brief period, in company with Mr. Dauby. In 1821, he disposed of the establishment to Levi W. Sibley. After the separate organization of Monroe County, the title of the paper was changed to that of "Monroe Republican," and was under the charge of Derick Sibley, and Levi W. Sibley, until November, 1825, when it passed into the hands of Whittlesey & Mumford, who, in company with Edwin Scrantom, continued its publication until July, 1827, when they sold out, and it was merged in another paper.

In 1818, July 7, Everard Peck & Co., in connection with their Book-Store, established the "Rochester Telegraph," the mechanical department of which was conducted for about a year by Derick Sibley, aided by his brother, L. W. Sibley. In 1824, it was enlarged, and Thurlow Weed employed as Editor of the paper. In 1825, Mr. Weed purchased the establishment, and, with Robert Martin, issued it semi-weekly until 1827, when Mr. Weed withdrew from the concern, and during the year 1828, it was published daily by Mr. Martin.

In October, 1825, Marshall, Spalding & Hunt established the "Rochester Album," which continued on its course for two or three years—was purchased by Mr. Martin, and united with the Telegraph.

On the 25th of October 1826, Luther Tucker & Co., commenced the publication of the "Rochester Daily Advertiser," issuing in connection with it a week-

ly, called the "Rochester Mercury." In 1829, Tucker & Martin united the two daily papers, giving it the name of the "Rochester Daily Advertiser and Telegraph," with a weekly, the "Rochester Republican."—In 1830, Hoyt & Porter took the place of Mr. Martin, and Henry O'Rielly was placed in the editorial chair, which post he occupied until 1838, when he was appointed Post Master of Rochester, and Thomas W. Flagg assumed the chair which had been thus vacated. In 1840, Thomas H. Hyatt bought the establishment and became the sole proprietor. On the 1st of May, 1842, another revolution in the establishment took place, and it passed into the hands of Hiram Bumphrey and Cephas S. McConnell. Joseph Curtis, on the 1st day of January, 1844, succeeded Mr. Bumphrey. In October, 1845, McConnell & Curtis sold the establishment to Isaac Butts, and in October, 1846, Harvey L. Winants was admitted as a partner, under the firm of I. Butts & Co., by whom the paper is now conducted.

The events of 1826, called into existence, in January, 1828, the "Rochester Balance," by D. D. Stephensen. This name, however, was soon after discarded, and "Anti-masonic Enquirer" substituted in its place, conducted by Thurlow Weed and Samuel Heron. In February, 1829, Daniel N. Sprague purchased Mr. Heron's interest, and on the 30th March, 1830, Mr. Weed retired, leaving the establishment in the hands of Mr. Sprague, who continued it until the 20th October, 1831, when Erastus Shepard, then of Palmyra, united the "Western Spectator" with the Enquirer—enlarged the paper, and became its only proprietor until November, 1832, when Alvah Strong was admitted a partner, and by them the paper was continued until February 18, 1834, at which time another establishment was united with it, and a new paper issued.

Soon after the Enquirer was started, E. J. Roberts commenced the publication of "The Craftsman," which was published for about a year and a half, and was then discontinued.

The "Rochester Observer," a semi-monthly religious publication was commenced in 1827, by the Rev. Mr. Sill, who hired it printed by L. Tucker & Co. In 1828, it was published for Samuel Chipman, by Elisha Loomis. In 1830, it was printed by Albert G. Hall. In 1832, it was sold to Hoyt & Porter, who, after publishing it for a short time, transferred its subscription list to the New-York Evangelist.

In 1828, Peter Cherry commenced the publication of a miscellaneous paper, called the "Western Wanderer,"—soon after it passed into the hands of Edwin Scramton, and assumed the title of the "Rochester Gem." Mr. Scramton disposed of it in 1833, to John Denio. In 1834, Shepard & Strong became the proprietors, and its publication was finally discontinued by Strong & Dawson, in 1843.

The "Genesee Farmer" sprung into existence in 1830, by L. Tucker & Co., edited by Naman Goodsell. It was started a weekly, but in 1832, it was en-

larged and published monthly. Mr. Goodsell left the establishment about this time, and brought forward "Goodsell's Genesee Farmer," which was printed by George Smth—it soon after passed into the hands of Shepard & Strong, and was by them discontinued. Mr. Tucker continued the Genesee Farmer, and for a while it was under the editorial charge of H. L. Stevens—then of Wyllis Gaylord, of Onondaga County, until 1839, when Mr. Tucker removed to Albany, where it was united with the "Cultivator,"—Soon after this, Elihu F. Marshall and Michael B. Bateham, started the "New Genesee Farmer," which was placed under the editorial supervision of Mr. Bateham, until 1841, when Henry Coleman became Editor, and eventually owner of the establishment. In December, 1842, Charles F. Crosman bought the paper, and disposed of one half of it to Mr. Shepard. It was continued by them until 1844, when it passed into the hands of Benjamin F. Smth and James P. Fogg. In 1845, Daniel D. T. Moore, became the proprietor, and Dr. Daniel Lee, Editor, with P. Barry as conductor of the Horticultural Department, and it is thus published at the present time.

The "National Republican," a weekly paper, by Sidney Smith, was commenced in the spring of 1831, and was thus continued until 1833, when a daily was issued from the same office until the winter following, when Mr. S. disposed of it to Shepard & Strong. The "Monroe Democrat" took the place of the National Republican and of the Enquirer, and the "Rochester Daily Democrat" that of the Evening Advertiser. In the spring of 1836, George Dawson purchased an interest in the Democrat, and edited the papers until August, 1839, when he sold out to the other partners. In April, 1842, he again became interested in the establishment, purchasing Mr. Shepard's half of it. In November, 1846, Mr. Dawson sold out to Henry Cook and Samuel P. Allen, who, in company with Mr. Strong, now carry on the establishment.

On the 19th of October, 1839, the "Workingman's Advocate," a daily paper, was started at Rochester, and was the offspring of a "strike" among the Journeymen Printers of the city. A press, type, and other material was purchased of Delazon Smith, by George T. Frost, William S. Falls, and Cornelius S. Underwood, and by them placed at the disposal of the Typographical Association. The establishment was committed to the care of Messrs. Underwood, Falls & Frost, and the editorial department, to Henry C. Frink, who at the same time discharged the duties of foreman in the Book and Job office of William Alling. A weekly paper was also issued from the same office. About the first of April following, it was purchased by James Vick, jr., and George T. Frost, and its name changed to that of "Evening Advocate." Mr. Frost afterwards disposed of his interest to Alonzo Bennet. It was thus continued for about a year, when it passed into the hands of John I. Reilly & Co., and was merged in the "Evening Post." This firm continued the Post, in connection with a large weekly called the "Western New-Yorker," until the first of January, 1843, when they came into the hands of Erastus Shepard,



who continued them until the November following, when they were both discontinued.

In 1840, William A. Welles commenced the publication of the "Rochester Daily Whig," and continued it through the political campaign of that year, when it was thrown up.

Ablathar M. Harris and Thomas H. Hayatt started a paper at Brockport, but at what time, I am unable to say. It was afterwards in the hands of Jeremiah O. Balch, and at a still later period in the hands of Ansel Warren. A paper is now in existence in that village, called the "Brockport Watchman," and is conducted by Edwin T. Bridges.

A paper was commenced at Honeoye Falls, in 1840, by Mr. Hough. How long it was continued is not stated.

The "Voice of Truth, and Glad Tidings of the Kingdom at Hand," a weekly Second Advent paper was commenced on the 1st of February, 1844, by Elder Joseph Marsh, who still continues its publication.

On the 23rd of December, 1844, Leonard Jerome and Josiah M. Patterson commenced the publication of the "Rochester Daily American," Alexander Mann, Editor. A weekly paper was also issued at the same time. In July, 1845, Lawrence R. Jerome became interested as co-partner in the establishment, and it was conducted under the firm of J. M. Patterson & Co. until January 1st, 1846, when it became the property of Leonard and Lawrence R. Jerome exclusively, by whom it has since been published, under the firm of Jerome & Brother. In September, 1846, Dr. Daniel Lee became associated with Mr. Mann in the editorial department, and in March, 1847, Reuben D. Jones became one of the editors of that paper.

The "Genesee Evangelist" was commenced in the city of Rochester, in the spring of 1846, by Rev. John E. Robie. It is respectable in size and appearance, and is said to be the first weekly religious newspaper in the nation which has an existence or was ever projected at the low price of one dollar a year. It is not denominational in its character, though its editor and proprietor is a minister in one of the evangelical churches. The paper is said to have been well received wherever it has become known, and to bid fair for a long and healthful existence.

The "Genesee Olio," a literary paper, by Franklin Cowdrey—and the "Christian Offering," a religious paper, by S. B. Shaw, both semi-monthlies, are also published at Rochester.

[In addition to the papers already enumerated, the following have been published in Rochester during the last nine years, for a period varying from three to eighteen months but none of which have now an existence there. Particulars are not known:—The "Watchman," an infidel paper, by Delazon Smith. "Daily Sun," neutral, by Alfred Oakley. The "Jeffersonian," a daily political paper, by Thomas L. Nichols. The "Penny Preacher," a small

religious publication, issued weekly, by Erastus Shepard. The "Western Luminary," a Universalist paper, printed weekly, by Rev. J. M. Cook, and others, but now published in Buffalo. The "True Genesee Farmer," devoted to agriculture, N. Goodsell, Editor, a monthly paper, by Wm. A. Welles. The "Medical Truth Teller," devoted to the Thomsonian practice, by Dr. Justin Gates. The "Evening Advocate," a small daily paper, neutral, by Alonzo Bennet & Robert A. Willson. The "Rochester Telegraph," a small weekly publication, devoted to items of news, neutral, by George A. Knapp. The "Youth's Temperance Banner," monthly, published by the Executive Committee of the Youth's Temperance Society, of Rochester.—Eds American.]

It is by no means to be taken for granted, that the above list comprises all the papers that have been commenced in the city of Rochester—but it is all the Committee have furnished me with.

This, then, is the extent of the Newspaper Press in Monroe County. From the data furnished me, I have endeavored to present the facts as they exist in reference to those establishments. I now propose to take a survey of the battle-field, and trace out, so far as it can be done, the personal history of those who have been actors in the scenes described. First, then, let us call up the case of

Augustine G. Dauby. This gentleman, as before stated, was the first person who attempted to plant the standard of the Press in Monroe County. He was a pupil of Ira Merrill, and learned the "art and mystery of type setting" at Utica. Mr. D. is a fine and noble specimen of the Craft, and very justly enjoys the confidence and esteem of all, who, in the social relations of life, or in a business capacity, are thrown in his way. In 1816, by means of a small patrimony, he was enabled to purchase a Ramage Press, and such other materials as were deemed necessary, and with this "setting out," he launched his bark at the "Mill Yard," and forthwith issued to the "dwellers in the wilderness" the first number of the "Rochester Gazette." Various successes attended this new undertaking in a new country. Sometimes he was cheered by the opening view before him, and at others depressed by the difficulties that are inseparable from such an undertaking, and under such circumstances. In this way he struggled on for a little more than 3 years, and was just beginning to reap the reward that he so justly merited, when all his hopes and expectations were nipped in the bud by the destruction of his office, by fire! This catastrophe befel him on the 7th of December, 1819. Efforts were immediately made to put the young Printer on his legs again, and through the kindness of the citizens, the April following, 1820, saw Mr. Dauby again in the "full tide of successful experiment." In 1821, he disposed of the establishment to Levi W. Sibley, and returning to Utica, started the "Oneida Observer." Near the close of Mr. Monroe's administration, he received the appointment of Post Master at Utica, an office which he has held until the present time, although two administrations have been in power since, whose advent to office was strenuously opposed by Mr.

Dauby. A life of toil and industry has given him a competency for old age. Long may he be spared to enjoy it.

John Sheldon, who was in company with Mr. Dauby for a short time, removed to Detroit immediately after leaving the establishment of the Rochester Gazette.

Oran Follett, who was in company for a time with Mr. Dauby, after Sheldon left, will be spoken of more at length in the "Recollections of the Press in Genesee County."

Derick Sibley and Levi W. Sibley, were somewhat conspicuous in the early establishment of Printing in Monroe County. The former gentleman was appointed to preside at the Printers' Festival held last year, and discharged the duties in a manner highly gratifying to all present. He was elected by the citizens of Monroe County to the legislature of this State, and also filled other responsible public offices. To show the manner in which business is done in a new country, and the expedients to which its inhabitants are obliged to resort, it may be stated, that at one time, 1818, the two Sibleys received essential aid in the prosecution of their business, from the personal assistance at case of a noble and generous-hearted sister! That sister is still living, the affectionate wife of a member of the Craft, and the mother of as large and interesting a family as any in the city of Rochester. Derick Sibley has recently removed to Cincinnati, Ohio. Levi W. died in August, 1844.

Whittlesey & Mumford were at one time the proprietors of the Monroe Republican.—Frederick Whittlesey, and William W. Mumford—the former, Vice Chancellor of the 8th Circuit, the duties of which laborious office he has discharged with great fidelity and ability for several years, and the latter a lawyer of some eminence in the city of Rochester.

Edwin Scrantom was the first Apprentice to the Printing Business in Rochester. He still lives there, a worthy and respected citizen—is now an Alderman of the city, and is doing an extensive business as an Auction and Commission Merchant, &c. &c. He is deserving of success, and the indications are that he is in a fair way for its accomplishment.

Everard Peck has been more or less connected with the Printing and Bookselling business in Rochester for many years. With good business habits, and strict integrity of purpose, he has worked his way through life thus far with success. He has retired from his former pursuits, but continues to reside in Rochester, where, in its infancy, he commenced business thirty years ago, and in the growth and prosperity of which he has always manifested a lively interest.

Jesse Peck was Foreman in the office of the "Telegraph," from 1818 to 1825, when the establishment was transferred to Mr. Weed. He was for several years after, connected with Everard Peck and David Hoyt, in the Printing and Bookselling business. He is now one of the firm of Peck &

Stafford, Book and Job Printers, New Haven, Conn. He was a first rate Printer, a worthy man, and a favorite among the Craft.

Thurlow Weed. In the history of this gentleman, the "young Printer" has the highest incentives to a manly battle with the trials and perplexities of life. With scarcely, if any other advantages than those derived from the schooling of the office, he has risen to an eminence which but few others have attained as the conductor of a public journal. Without meaning or intending any disparagement to others, I may be permitted to say, that Mr. Weed is blessed with a large and generous soul—always alive to the wants and necessities of his fellow men, and always giving in such cases, so long as he has a shilling in store. Indeed, he has sometimes been known to carry this principle too far—forgetting occasionally, in the outpouring of his generous heart, that "charity begins at home." However, as Editor of the Albany Evening Journal, and State Printer, he has, it is thought, accumulated a sufficiency to carry him through life with ease and comfort, if indeed, he were disposed thus to live.

Robert Martin was associated with Mr. Weed in the publication of the Rochester Telegraph from 1824 to 1829 or 1830, when he returned to Albany, and engaged in the Daily Advertiser and Gazette in that city, with which he had previously been connected. He died a few years after.

Elihu F. Marshall was a well known and respected citizen of Rochester. In company with Mr. Dean, he was engaged in printing and bookselling. He established, in or about 1825, an excellent weekly newspaper, called "The Album," which, after several years of successful operation, was merged in the Telegraph. Mr. Marshall was the author of a Spelling Book extensively used at that day. He held the office of City Treasurer. He died in Rochester some five or six years ago.

Mr. Spalding was also connected with the press in Rochester, but of him the records are nearly silent. Mr. S. died a few years ago at Avon—in a stage coach in which he was traveling in company with his wife. His disease was consumption, and death overtook him in these strange and unexpected circumstances.

John H. Hunt was an apprentice in the Telegraph office, and afterwards one of the publishers of the Album. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1846, from the city of New York, where he now resides.

Luther Tucker and those associated with him, were the pioneers of the Daily Press west of Albany. The Printing Business is greatly indebted to the persevering industry that characterizes the life of Mr. Tucker, for the great and growing impetus that has been given to it in the city of Rochester. Patient and enduring to the last, no obstacles however formidable they might seem to others, were too much for him to grapple with and surmount.—He has thus fought his way through the trials and adversities of life, and is now reaping the reward of his industry in the successful publication of the "Cultivator," an Agricultural paper printed at Albany.

Henry O'Reilly is another name conspicuously identified with the Press of Western New-York. He also is a practical Printer, and a man possessing a strong and vigorous intellect, schooled by many years of service in the arduous duty of a newspaper Editor.—He is indefatigable as a man of research, and the public are greatly indebted to him for his work entitled, "Rochester and Western New-York," published a few years since, and in which is contained a vast fund of information, personal, statistical, and local, which had it not been for him must have been soon lost and forgotten. He was for a number of years Post Master of the city of Rochester, and is now, and has been for some time past, engaged as the Agent for the Magnetic Telegraph Company, in superintending the erection and completion of those lines of communication at the West and South. He has prosecuted the business with great vigor and perseverance, and many of them have been brought to a successful completion under his management. He too, is a man of unbounded benevolence and charity, caring more for the woes of others, than the necessities of self. So much so, indeed, that it amounts to a fault. In this he errs—but it is an error of the head, for the heart is essentially right.

Thomas W. Flagg succeeded Mr. O'Reilly in the Editorial chair. I can say nothing of his personal history, for the simple reason that it is unknown to me

Thomas H. Hyatt, is a member of the Craft, and was from 1840 to 1842, at the head of the Advertiser and Republican. After relinquishing the business, he retired upon a farm in the vicinity of the city of Rochester, and there devoted his time and his money to the development of the "art of farming."—He was the means of introducing many valuable and rare kinds of stock into Monroe Co., and has done much to advance the cause of Agriculture. He is now one of the proprietors, and also the Editor, of the Daily Globe, published in New-York.

Hiram Bumphrey was for some time, previous and subsequent to his proprietorship, the Editor of the Advertiser and Republican. He is not a Printer, but left the plow to assume the duties of the quill. During the command which he exercised over the columns under his charge, the paper was very creditably sustained. Mr. B. is now Canal Collector at Rochester. The open, frank, and generous nature of the Major has secured him many friends.

Isaac Butts and Harvey L. Winants are now the publishers of the same paper.—The former, I believe, is not a Printer, but the latter is. The slight acquaintance I have had with these gentlemen, does not permit me to speak of their personal history. The paper is well conducted, and handsomely sustained.

In the catalogue, as connected with the Press in Rochester, appear the names of D. D. Stephenson, Samuel Heron, Daniel N. Sprague, and many others, of whom it would give me great pleasure to speak more at large, but my knowledge of their history will not warrant me in so doing. Of Mr.



Sprague it is however stated, that he was in 1830 associated with Mr. Weed in the Rochester Anti-Masonic Enquirer, and after Mr. W. left Rochester to comence the publication of the Evening Journal at Albany, Mr. S. for a time continued the former paper. He is at present the Editor of the Wooster Democrat in Ohio, a paper which he has published for 12 or 14 years.

Erastus Shepard, is a name honorably connected with the business of Printing in Rochester. Mr. S. is a native of New Hartford, Conn., but spent his childhood in Oneida County, and entered the office of his cousin, Ira Merrill, in 1810, being then 14 years of age. His fellow-apprentices were George Camp, Chauncey Morgan, his brother Augustus, Chester Gurney, and Augustine G. Dauby. The latter was Mr. Shepard's senior at the business, one day, which of course threw the burden of carrying papers, treading pelts, fetching water, and distributing extras, upon the shoulders of Mr. S. long after Mr. D., had been excused from the performance of those necessary branches of the business. But notwithstanding all this, I have heard Mr. S. say, they always lived upon the best of terms. For six long years they sat at the same table, and shared at night, the same bed, without any of those petty broils which are too apt to mar the dull routine of the days of apprenticeship. The close of the war left Mr. Merrill, who, in addition to Printing, was also largely engaged in the Book trade, as it did many others—a total wreck in business. Mr. S., as I have heard him express himself, was thus left, at the age of 20, to "shack for himself," and with but little knowledge and less experience, he entered into business at Ithaca. As might reasonably be anticipated, he was unsuccessful. He frequently reproaches himself for not making higher aims, while an apprentice. Through the kindness of his employer, he was permitted to attend school during the days of his probation. The teacher reproached him on one occasion for not preparing, as was the custom, a piece for declamation. But young Shepard, like most other boys of his age, was wise in his own conceit, and very promptly answered his teacher, "I do not expect to become an orator—it is enough for me, if I can make a first rate journeyman Printer!" He was permitted to have his own way, but has ever since deeply regretted his obstinacy, and self-will, and I mention it here, to warn apprentices of the present day to avoid a similar course. There is another point upon which Mr S. always speaks with feeling and earnestness, and his admonition to the young is, "Be not impatient of restraint." He attributes his own preservation from the path of the destroyer, to the pious care of the man who was wisely chosen by his parents to take charge of his youthful career. He says that "in tracing the lives of those youth who did not enjoy the same watchful care, or those who cast off those wholesome restraints, I find many, alas! too many, who have made shipwreck of themselves, and become burthens to society." He also says experience has taught him a wholesome lesson, and he sometimes volunteers it for the benefit of his young friends, who may be endeavoring to clamber up the ladder of life, which is—"Never leave a good situation to embark in uncertainties, without something better than

fair words and surface promises from political demagogues, who have 'chestnuts to pull out of the fire.'" This is good advice, and coming from one of the Craft, who already in advance of half a century, is entitled to weight and consideration. It is a warning to the young, and by them should be heedfully considered.

Alvah Strong is one of the partners at present engaged in the publication of the Rochester Daily Democrat, and a man of great perseverance and industry, to whom much credit is due for the advancement of the art in that city.

Ansei Warren, like too many of the Craft, has had more experience in originating and publishing newspapers, than has been a source of profit to him. He has published papers in several counties in this State. Some years since, while printing a paper in Saratoga, Albany Co., his office was totally destroyed by fire. At present he is publishing the "Free Citizen," at Perry, Wyoming County. He enjoys the esteem and respect of the fraternity of his acquaintance, as a gentleman of candor and integrity.

E. J. Roberts, for a while the conductor of a paper in Rochester, was originally in the same business at Kingston, Ulster County, where he printed a paper also called the "Craftsman."—He was doing a fair business, and prospects were bright before him—but, in an evil hour, he purchased a lottery ticket, and had the misfortune, as the sequel will prove, to draw the one half of \$20,000! After this Kingston was too small to contain the little body of our friend Roberts. He immediately sold out—repaired to New-York, and there formed a copartnership with M. M. Noah. He and the Major were soon at variance—a personal difficulty ensued, in which tradition says the Major came off second-best—a dissolution followed, and soon after Mr. Roberts made his appearance at Rochester. From thence he went to Buffalo, where he was for some time concerned in the Newspaper Press, from which place he removed to Detroit, where he was similarly engaged. Was Police Justice of the city, and finally Clerk of the Senate of Michigan. Whether he is still a resident of that city or not, is more than I am able to say. Mr. Roberts is by no means deficient in talent, but he is wanting in that firmness and decision of character, which is so essential to success in life. If, in early life, he had learned to "let well enough alone," his success would have been by no means problematical.

Elisha Loomis, who at one time was the Printer of the Rochester Observer, served his apprenticeship in the office of Mr. Bemis, of Canandaigua—went out as Missionary Printer to the Sandwich Islands, and on his return located at Rochester.

Albert G. Hail also printed the same paper, and following the example of some who had preceded him, he filled up his leisure moments by close application to classical studies, and was finally licensed as a minister. He is now the worthy Pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester.

Here is an example, not only for the apprentice, but for the journeyman also. It only requires the will, and the deed is easily accomplished.

Peter Cherry, the founder of the "Wanderer," has experienced many "ups and downs" since that period. He has acquired the art of Portrait Painting, in addition to that of Printing, and now pursues that of the former profession, in Rochester.

Many names follow as connected with different publications, but with whose private history I am wholly unacquainted, and of whom, therefore, I can say nothing.

George Dawson. Every body knows George. Proud of being a member of the fraternity, he is a good companion, a ready writer, as well as a ready debater, and a man of unconquerable perseverance. In the spring of 1836, he left his post as reporter in the Senate for the Albany Journal, and became one of the proprietors of the Rochester Democrat. In 1839, he sold out, and became interested in the establishment of the Advertiser, at Detroit, Michigan. He was afterwards appointed State Printer, finally sold out, returned to Rochester, and again became interested in the Democrat, but is now one of the Editors and proprietors of the Albany Evening Journal.

Henry Church Frink, although not occupying that prominent position usually pertaining to the corps editorial, but choosing rather a retiracy, possessed a vigorous and well-stored mind. Previous to assuming the editorial charge of the Advocate, he frequently contributed to the columns of the Rochester papers, many valuable articles on intricate subjects connected with Science and the Arts. The Mathematical and Astronomical calculations were furnished by him, to publishers of almanacs in Rochester and other places, for a series of years. He was also the author of a work entitled, "Aloft and Aloft—on Board and on Shore," 178 duodecimo pp. It was designed to aid in the great Temperance Reformation, to which it doubtless contributed, as the work speedily attained to a second edition. He served an apprenticeship to the business with Marshall & Dean, in Rochester. Their office subsequently passing into the hands of Mr. William Alling, he was elevated to its superintendence, which station he occupied for a number of years, and until Mr. A., in the spring of 1844, disposed of his office to Messrs. Canfield & Warren, when he removed, with his family to New-York city, to enter into the service of John T. Trow & Co., as proof reader in their extensive Book establishment. He had occupied this situation, however, but a brief period, when he was obliged to desist, on account of an affection of one of his legs, which had now assumed a serious aspect, caused by a severe injury received on board ship while crossing the Atlantic several years previous. It was now deemed necessary to resort to amputation. To this he calmly resigned, but was soon pained by the discovery that a cure was not to be expected, as the operation was performed below the seat of the disease. Disheartened and in this deplorable condition, in the fall of 1845, amid great bodily suffering,



be returned to his friends in Western New-York. He finally reached the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Eber Kendall, then of Lockport, where he lingered but a few days, when he was relieved by death of his earthly sufferings.

Henry Cook and Samuel P. Allen, both Printers, are the Editors of the Daily Democrat, and exhibit great industry and perseverance in the conduct of their paper.

William A. Welles. This gentleman is a Printer, a Sailor, a Traveller, and a Writer of considerable ability. All who attended the last year's Festival, or have read its proceedings, are better acquainted with his life and history than I can hope to make them. He is evidently a genius, but the best energies of his life have been spent in ministering to the gratification of a roving propensity.

The "Rochester Daily American," is in the hands of L. & L. R. Jerome. This paper is of but recent comparative origin, but it has already assumed an important position among the newspaper press of the city where it is published. Its proprietors are energetic and persevering in their business. Alexander Mann is the Editor of this paper, and seems to be admirably adapted to the duties of his station. Recently, as before stated, Dr. Daniel Lee and R. D. Jones have become associated with Mr. M.

With this sketch, brief and imperfect as it is, I must close the notice of the Newspaper Press of Monroe County. Many, and I doubt not, worthy members of the Craft have been passed by in silence. It has not been my desire to do so—but ignorance of their personal history has compelled me to take this course. Upon this, I rest my plea of justification. From what I know of the Jurors in this case, I anticipate a triumphant acquittal.

## ERIE COUNTY.

The Newspaper Press in this County, since the first attempt to plant its standard there in 1811, has undergone many changes and fluctuations. This is more or less true in regard to most kinds of business, but holds peculiarly so in regard to the Newspaper Press, in its infancy, in all sections of our country. The pioneers—those who clear the way for its introduction, rarely reap the reward that is due them. After struggling through the night of adversity, and just as the dawn of brighter hopes is about to break upon them, they are haunted by the ghost of accumulated debts, the result, generally, of neglect and indifference on the part of those who were most strenuous for the undertaking, but who, having accomplished their own ambitions and selfish purposes, now turn a cold shoulder upon him who has been mainly instrumental in their advancement. Young adventurers should be on their guard against the tricks of such men. I do not intend these remarks particularly for the County of Erie—they will apply, like the weather calculations of an Almanac, to almost any meridian.

The first paper established in this County, the "Buffalo Gazette," was issued on the 3d of October, 1811, by Smith H. and Hezekiah A. Salisbury, Brothers. In Jan'y. 1818, S. H. Salisbury transferred his interest to Wm. A. Carpenter. In the April following, Mr. Carpenter disposed of his share in the establishment to H. A. Salisbury, his partner, who changed the title of the paper to "Niagara Patriot." On the separate organization of Erie County, in 1820, the title of the paper was again changed to "Buffalo Patriot." In 1826, Mr. Carpenter again occupied the "chair Editorial." It was, however, for a time vacated by him, and his place occupied by Harvey Newcomb, in 1829, who continued in it for about a year, when it was again resumed by Mr. Carpenter, who occupied it until 1834. The first number of the "Daily Commercial Advertiser" was issued from the same office on the 1st of January, 1835, and was under the Editorial charge of Guy H. Salisbury, whose health compelled him to withdraw from it at the close of the same year. On the 1st of January, 1836, Bradford A. Manchester purchased one half of the establishment, and it was conducted under the firm of Salisbury & Manchester, and under the editorial charge, at one time, of Dr. Thomas M. Foote, and for a short period, of Theodore C. Peters. On the 1st of July of the same year, H. A. Salisbury retired from the concern, leaving it in the hands of Dr. Foote and Guy H. Salisbury, associated with Mr. Manchester, by whom it was conducted until August, 1838, when Almon M. Clapp merged the "Standard," then published at Aurora, in the weekly "Patriot," and became one of the Editors and proprietors of the "Commercial" and "Patriot." Mr. Manchester soon after withdrew from the establishment, leaving it in the hands of his partners, by whom it was carried on, under the firm of Salisbury, Foote & Co., until May, 1839, when Salisbury and Clapp disposed of their interest to Dr. Foote and Elam R. Jewett, which latter gentleman was then publishing the "Daily Buffalo Journal," and which by this arrangement, was merged in the "Commercial." The paper has since been published by these gentlemen, under the firm of E. R. Jewett & Co.,—Dr. Foote, Editor, assisted by Dr. Daniel Lee.

The "Buffalo Republican," weekly, was established in April, 1823, by William P. M. Wood. In September following it passed into the hands of Smith H. Salisbury and William S. Snow. In April, 1829, Mr. Snow relinquished his interest to Mr. Salisbury. In the spring of 1830, it passed into the hands of Henry L. Ball, who sold out in 1831 to Charles Faxon and James Stryker, the latter of whom had edited the paper while in the hands of Mr. Ball, and continued in that capacity until October, 1834, when Mr. Faxon bought his interest, and Horatio Gates became Editor. Israel T. Hatch, in '31, and Henry K. Smith, in '34, were likewise its political Editors. In the spring of 1835, the "Bulletin," a weekly, and the "Daily Star," both of which were then published by James Faxon, were purchased by Charles Faxon, who merged the "Bulletin" in the "Republican," continuing the "Star" as the daily. In August, 1838, Mr. Gates retired, and William L. Crandal assumed the editorial duties. In December of that year the establishment

was destroyed by fire, and the publication of the paper necessarily suspended for several weeks. It was however resumed in 1839, by Quartus Graves, who had bought out Mr. Faxon, and Mr. Gates returned again to his Editorial duties, assisted for a brief period, by J. W. Dwinelle. In 1840, Mr. Gates again vacated the chair, and it was taken by Stephen Albro, assisted for a few months by J. C. Bunner. In April, 1841, Samuel Caldwell, superseded Mr. Albro, who, after a few weeks trial, relinquished it to J. C. Bunner, who continued at his post until Mr. Graves sold out to Henry Burwell, 1st of Jany. 1842, who changed the title of the paper to "Democratic Economist," upon which occasion Henry White was installed Editor. On the 1st of October, 1842, Joseph Stringham purchased the establishment, and issued the daily under the title of "Mercantile Courier," and assumed its Editorial charge. On the 1st of July, 1846, the Daily "National Pilot," published by Bradford A. Manchester and James O. Brayman, was united with the "Courier," and the paper was carried on under the firm of Stringham, Manchester & Brayman, until November of the same year, when Mr. Stringham relinquished his interest to his partners, and Guy H. Salisbury was associated with Mr. Brayman in its Editorial management, and by them it is still conducted.

On the 14th of January, 1846, Almon M. Clapp, Rufus Wheeler, and William M'Credie, under the firm of A. M. Clapp & Co., commenced the publication of the "Morning Express;" the editorial department being assigned to Mr. Clapp, and in October, W. E. Robinson was associated with him.

In January, 1847, a daily and weekly, bearing the title of the "Republic," was issued by an association of Journeymen Printers, under the firm of Livingston, Albro & Co.

In July, 1841, a semi-monthly publication, under the title of "Western Literary Messenger," was commenced by John S. Chadbourne. In July, 1842, Charles D. Ferris became an equal partner in the paper, and it was thenceforward issued weekly. Mr. F. remained in it for one year, and sold out to Jesse Clement. In May, 1846, Mr. Chadbourne retired and was succeeded by Charles Faxon, 2d, and the paper is now published by Clement & Faxon.

On the 1st of June, 1845, the "Buffalo Medical Journal and Monthly Review of Medical and Surgical Science," an octavo of 24 pages, was commenced by Dr. Austin Flint, as Editor and publisher. At the end of the first year it was enlarged to 64 pages.

The "Western Cataract," a weekly Temperance paper, was established in January, 1845, by Lyman P. Judson, and has passed through the hands, successively, of James Dubois, W. B. Williams, and Chauncey Hulburt. By the latter its title has been changed to that of "Western Temperance Standard," under which title it is still continued.

In June, 1846, Rev. L. S. Everett commenced the publication of the

"Western Evangelist"—from the same office, also, is issued the "Ambassador," both devoted to the Universalist denomination.

In December, 1837, a German paper was established, called "Der Weltburger," by George Zahm, who was killed in 1844, from which time until the fall of 1845, it was carried on by the administrators of his estate, under the Editorial charge of Jacob M. Zahm, when it passed into the hands of Dr. F. C. Brunck and J. Domidion, who commenced issuing it semi-weekly, and enlarged the weekly sheet.

The "Telegraph" is the title of a weekly German paper commenced in November, 1845, by H. B. Miller, and edited by Adolph Hillman.

The "Springville Express" is published by Edwin Hough, in the village indicated by its title, in Erie County. It was established there about two years since.

The above, the "chronicles of Erie" assert, is a history of the living Press of that County. But where are the "mighty dead"? Let us look around among the tombs that have swallowed them up, and see if their past history cannot be dragged forth and deciphered from the fragments that remain.

The second paper that made its appearance in the village of Buffalo, was in July, 1815, by David M. Day, called the "Niagara Journal." On the erection of Erie County, the title was changed to "Buffalo Journal." It was edited by the leading politicians of the day, until about 1822, when R. W. Haskins became its principal Editor. In 1826, Oran Follett became a partner, and the Editor. In 1824, R. W. Haskins was admitted to a copartnership, and as joint Editor. In 1830, Follet and Haskins retired, leaving the paper in the hands of Mr. Day. In 1834, he sold out to Elija J. Roberts, who in the summer of that year issued a daily under the name of "Daily Advertiser," which lived only about six weeks. Col. Morgan was assistant Editor with Mr. Roberts, and the late Comfort M. Butler, one of the publishers. In the early part of 1835, the paper was suspended. In the meantime, however, Mr. Day had established another paper, the "Buffalo Whig," of which R. W. Haskins was Editor. The personal popularity of Mr. Day was too much for the "Journal," and it went down. Soon after, Mr. D. purchased the title and subscription list of the defunct, and added that of "Journal" to his paper. On the first of January, 1836, Mitchenor Cadwallader and Dr. Henry R. Stagg, became interested with Mr. Day, and in the February following, commenced the "Daily Buffalo Journal," the editorial care of which was committed to Messrs. Cadwallader and Stagg. In 1837, Mr. Day retired, and the paper was continued by Stagg & Cadwallader until the fall of 1838, when the establishment passed into the hands of Elam R. Jewett, and Dr. Daniel Lee and J. B. Clarke were installed as Editors. In May, 1839, the "Journal" was merged in the "Commercial Advertiser."

In 1824, in September, John A. Lazelle and Simeon Francis issued the first number of the "Buffalo Emporium." From December, 1826, it was issued semi-weekly, and was discontinued in the latter part of 1829. It was the first paper issued in Buffalo oftener than once a week.

In the winter of 1827 or '28, Charles Sentell and Mr. Haywood, started a paper called the "Western Advertiser." The late Oliver Forward and James Sheldon were contributors to it. Its existence was prolonged only for about three months, when it was united to the "Buffalo Patriot."

In the spring of 1830, Horace Steel commenced the "Buffalo Bulletin." About Feb., 1834, it was bought by James Faxon, and Mason Brayman became its Editor. It was afterwards, as before stated, merged in the "Republican."

In August, 1835, the "Transcript," daily and weekly, was started by Henry Faxon, and edited by E. J. Roberts. In December, Edward H. Thompson, became the Editor. It went down after an existence of six months.

About this period several small daily sheets were issued, which had but a brief existence of two or three weeks, and then descended to the "tomb of the Capulets." The "Daily Whig," and the "Daily Enquirer," are the only ones of this class that can be called to mind.

In the winter of 1835, a little weekly sheet was started called the "Locofoco." It lived but a few weeks, when its light was extinguished.

During the winter of the "Patriot War," a little weekly sheet, called the "Buffalonian," made its appearance, under the auspices of an association of journeyman Printers. It was soon after issued daily by F. B. Ward & Co. At first it was edited by Mr. "Anon." The thing taking pretty well, this Mr. Anon, soon after turned into Mr. Geo. Arlington. Its wit, humor and biting personalities soon procured for it a large circulation, and this Mr. Anon, alias, Geo. Arlington, was again changed into Thomas L. Nichols. In the fall, Mr. N. left the establishment and started another of similar character, called the "Mercury." The "Buffalonian" was continued under the editorial charge of J. D. Dwinelle, but being divested somewhat of its obnoxious character, its popularity began to wane, and after some two months it was bought out by Mr. Nichols, and united with the "Mercury." In 1839 it went into the hands of N.R. Stimpson, who published it until the succeeding spring, when it ceased to exist.

In 1838-9. Abraham Dinsmore published the "Sun," daily and weekly. In the May following it passed into the hands of E. H. Eastabrooks, and was discontinued in October.

Thomas Newell, in the spring of 1839-40, started a daily and weekly paper, called the "Buffalo Centinel." It was edited for a brief period by Thomas L. Nichols, and for about three months by Henry Reed, Jr. It was discontinued in the fall.



In the summer of 1840, the "Morning Tattler," daily, was issued by Langdon, Fouchette & Schaeffer, and edited at first by George W. Bungay, and at a later period by Thomas L. Nichols, for a short time. It was subsequently published for a few months by John S. Walker, as the "Morning Times," but soon after, as tradition says, "went dead one day."

The first number of "Honest Industry" was issued in the summer of 1840, by Dr. Daniel Lee. It never reached a second number, but died in its effort to burst forth into existence.

The "Phalanx," edited by Charles D. Ferris, and published daily and weekly, was commenced in 1840. It was discontinued at the end of six weeks.

In 1840, a German weekly paper, called the "Volksfreund," was established. It was edited by Adolphus Meyers. It was discontinued after the election of that year.

Another German paper called the "Freimuthige," was started January 1st, 1843, by Alexander Kranse and Adolphus Meyer. It was discontinued in the summer of 1845.

The "School Reader" is the title of a weekly publication commenced in 1842, by A. W. Wilgus, and edited by R. W. Haskins. It lived for one quarter and expired for want of patronage.

The "Sublime Patriot" was published in the winter of 1841-2, by Thomas Jefferson Southerland. It was issued semi-monthly, but its course was soon run.

A weekly paper, bearing the name of "Buffalo American," was commenced in the winter or spring of 1842, by Thomas Foster and C F. Butler. It was designed for the mechanical and working classes. It was in existence only one year.

The "Daily Gazette," was commenced in August, 1842, by Charles Faxon, 2d, and soon after a weekly was issued, called the "Old School Jeffersonian," which sustained the administration of President Tylor. In the February following these papers were discontinued, when H. A. Salisbury, Bradford A. Manchester and James O. Brayman, issued daily and weekly, the "Buffalo Gazette." This paper was continued until February, 1845, when it was discontinued, and Messrs. Manchester & Brayman established the "National Pilot," with Mr. Brayman and R. W. Haskins as editors.

The "Temperance Standard," devoted entirely to the cause of Temperance, was published one year, 1842, by H. H. Salisbury and A. M. Clapp.

The Rev. Thomas Gross commenced the publication of a Universalist paper, called the "Gospel Advocate," in 1822. After the expiration of the first year it passed into the hands of Simeon Burton, who continued it for three years. It then came into the hands of Rev. L. S. Everett, Rev. Theophilus Fisk, and M. Tuttle, who continued it until 1828, when it was removed to Auburn, and afterwards united with the "Evangelical Magazine," at Utica.

The "Warning," says the Editor of the Buffalo "Courier," was a little periodical, published we think once a fortnight, during the year 1828, by Rev. Jabez B. Hyde, and which was entirely devoted to the explanations of the personal wrongs and grievances sustained by him, in consequence of the action of the Buffalo Presbytery upon his ministerial functions as missionary among the Indians. It was a curious specimen of typography, as Mr. H. bought some old type, and learned to set them in his old age, for the purpose of spreading his case before the public, and composed the matter with his own hands, without much reference to the established rules of the art."

Of another sheet, the Editor of the "Courier" makes the following remarks:—"There was a periodical printed and published at the Mission House, on the Indian Reservation, near this city, for several years, in the Seneca language; under the charge of the Missionary, Rev. Asher Wright. It was designed to aid the religious teachings to the Indians, which the Mission was instituted for. We paid a visit to the 'office' some years since, and found the workmen engaged upon it, were a couple of young Indians, who had been taught enough of the 'art and mystery' to set up the gutturals that make up their native tongue. The paper has been removed to the Cattaraugus Reservation, since the Senecas have left our vicinity, where it is now printed. Its present title is 'Mental Elevator,' but whether that was its original name, or when it was commenced, we have not learned. The numerous accented characters which are employed in the Seneca language, make the paper much resemble the Phonographic prints—only a little more so."

The "Gospel Banner" was a monthly, published by Benjamin Clark, of Alden, and printed in Buffalo, in 1832 or '33. The particular design of this paper was the union of all Christians into one body—of course the doing away of sects, and the observance of the seventh day as the Sabbath. The benevolent designs of Mr. Clark have not yet been consummated.

The "Buffalo Herald," was the title of a Presbyterian paper, by Rev. Randolph Stone, which was commenced in 1831. Some misunderstanding occurring with the Printer, the paper was discontinued upon reaching its second number.

The "Young Men's Temperance Herald," was started in 1835. It lived one year. Its conductors were Abel M. Grosvenor and Ezra B. French.

In 1837 or '38, Nathaniel Potter, Jr., commenced a monthly publication, called the "Philanthropist." It embraced a wide and extensive field, and went for the general welfare of all mankind—for universal peace and non-resistance. One year closed its labors of love.

A Presbyterian publication called the "Buffalo Spectator," was commenced in 1836, by J. and W. Butler, under the editorial charge of Rev. Stephen Feet. It lived about two years.

In 1836 or '37, the Bethel Society commenced a monthly publication, under



the title of "Bethel Magazine," designed for the moral, religious and intellectual improvement of the sailors and boatmen on the Lake and Canal. Its name was afterwards changed to that of "Bethel Flag," and after bearing up gallantly against adverse winds and storms, about a year ago it was obliged to strike. It was then united with the "Sailor's Magazine," New-York.

The "Friend of Youth" was commenced in 1839, by Rev. A. T. Hopkins. It was published monthly, and devoted to the moral training of the young. It died in its youth, having survived only one year.

The Rev. Doct. John C. Lord, on the 1st of March, 1841, commenced the publication of the "Western Presbyterian," which was continued for one year.

The "Literary Enquirer," semi-monthly, under the auspices of the Buffalo Lyceum, was started by William Verrinder, Jan. 1, 1833. But politics proved to be in greater demand than literature, and after struggling against adverse fortunes, for two years, the establishment was removed to Fredonia, Chautauqua County, and transferred into a political newspaper.

The "Buffalo Garland," a weekly literary sheet, was commenced in 1840, by Geo. W. Bungay. It was but of short duration.

N. H. Bannister, who has contributed somewhat successfully to the literature of the Drama, commenced the publication, in 1841, of "Bannister's Life in Buffalo." The work proved a failure, and was abandoned after a trial of a few weeks. Abraham Dinsmore was the Printer.

"The Impetus," a quarto publication, by E. W. Spaulding, was commenced in the summer of 1845, and continued for six months, when its motive power ceased to act, and the impetus was no go.

In 1822, Lewis G. Hoffman commenced the publication of the "Black Rock Beacon." As long ago as that, it will be recollected the village of Buffalo and the village of Black Rock, were very much in the condition of the ancient houses of York and Lancaster—each contending for the crown of supremacy.—Many who may be induced to read these pages will remember the fierce and unrelenting war that was for a long time carried on between the two places—bitter and acrimonious on both sides. The Press, in such a contest, was indispensable, and this led to the lighting up of the "Beacon." The late Gen. Peter B. Porter was the Ajax of the "Rock," and contributed liberally to the columns of the "Beacon." The war was gallantly fought on both sides—and it was of long duration—but like every thing else, it was destined to have an end. Buffalo came forth victorious from the contest, and was crowned the "Queen City of the Lakes." The fires of the "Beacon" were extinguished in 1824. In the latter part of the same year, Bartemas Ferguson commenced the "Black Rock Gazette," which he continued to publish until August, 1825, when it passed into the hands of Smith H. Salisbury, who carried it on until the fall of 1827, when the establishment was removed to Buffalo, and there published under the

title of "Buffalo and Black Rock Gazette," until April, 1828, when it was discontinued.

In February, 1826, Daniel P. Adams commenced the publication of the "Black Rock Advocate." It was under the editorial charge of Dr. M. G. Lewis. It was sustained one year, and then discontinued.

But one more location in which an effort has been made in Erie County to establish the Press, remains to be spoken of. In that case, I will let the Editor of the "Courier" tell the tale in his own happy style. It follows:

"The village of Aurora—or rather the two villages, as they formed a disjunctive conjunction—had ambitious aspirations in 1835, that required the establishment of newspapers to aid the development of the advantages and resources of that fine town and adjacent country. Accordingly in August, of that year, the "Aurora Standard," was issued at East Aurora, by our fellow editor, Almon M. Clapp, and a well conducted paper it was—one of the best of the country Press. It was neutral the first year and then came out whig. In the fall of 1838, the "Standard" was merged in the "Buffalo Patriot," as was likewise its editor and publisher. The "Aurora Democrat" was started about the same time with the "Standard," at the West village of Aurora, by Deloss E. Sill. It was, as its name indicates, democratic in politics. At the expiration of a few months it was discontinued, and the materials moved to Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County, where Mr. Sill now prints the "Cattaraugus Whig." Since then, Aurora, East or West, has had no local organ, save the "Watchman," an unique little thing, the size of a sheet of letter paper, printed by Master O. C. Hoyt, who had learned a smattering of type setting, and got a small lot of old type together, out of which he made a paper, which was printed on a cheese-press. It soon shared the fate of many a cotemporary of larger dimensions and pretensions, and was not."

This, so far as the records show, presents a history of the rise, progress, and in many instances, the decline and fall, of the Press in Erie County. The picture, although it may be a faithful shadowing forth of the original—although the artist may have done his duty with great faithfulness and impartiality, still it cannot by any means be said to be a flattering one. But there is a corner of the canvass unoccupied, which it will now be my endeavor to fill up. It will not be my purpose to speak of all the actors in the dramas enacted in the establishment of the Newspaper Press in this County, and for the very obvious reason, that in regard to many of them, their personal history, to me, is an entire blank. Necessity, therefore, and not design, will compel me to leave the picture still in an unfinished state.

Smith H. and Hezekiah A. Salisbury were the first to break ground in the attempt to establish the Press in Erie County. This was in 1811, when this section of the State was just emerging from a wilderness state. From the notice of the Press of this County as contained in the "Buffalo Courier," the public are led to infer—indeed it is so stated—that the

brothers Salisbury made the attempt together, and at the same time. This is slightly at variance with the recollection of Mr. Bemis, who states that the old Press and Types originally used in the establishment of the "Ontario Repository," "were taken to Buffalo in 1810, and the first paper set up in that place was the 'Buffalo Gazette,' by Smith H. Salisbury, who, after the war, was joined by his surviving brother Hezekiah." I cannot take it upon myself to say which of these accounts is true—the probability, however, is that Mr. Bemis is mistaken, as he no doubt states the fact from simple recollection of the matter—whereas, the author of the statement as furnished through the "Courier," no doubt has the authority of the surviving partner for the truth of the statement therein contained. The apparent disparity in relation to time, in fact amounts to nothing. Mr. Bemis does not say that the paper was issued in 1810—simply that the materials were taken to Buffalo in that year. After struggling against the adverse fortunes that usually attend the early establishment of the Newspaper Press in an untried field, one of the brothers, Smith H., has silently sunk to his final rest. The other, Hezekiah A., still lives to witness the complete triumph of the art in the very place, where 36 years ago, the effort must have been looked upon as little short of the dreamings of a disordered mind! Mr. Salisbury is very justly regarded as one of the fathers of the craft in Western New-York. I have not the means at hand for determining the precise population of Buffalo, (at an early day called New-Amsterdam,) at the time the Messrs. Salisbury commenced the publication of the "Buffalo Gazette," but the probability is, that it did not exceed 5 or 600!—perhaps not so many. But civilization, and the means of disseminating knowledge, go hand in hand in this country. The surviving brother, although associated with the earliest recollections of the Press in Erie County, never served a regular apprenticeship at the business of Printing. For something like a year he was under the tuition of Mr. Bemis, but at the end of that time, like many boys of the present day, he repented, no doubt, "having learned the trade," and again betook himself to the cultivation of the soil. However, when his brother made known to him his intention to launch his bark at the foot of Lake Erie, he resolved to take passage with him, and has thus become a Printer, without serving an apprenticeship. Although advanced in years, he still occupies his post at the case.

David M. Day. This gentleman's name is early associated with the attempt to establish the Press in Buffalo. Mr. Day learned his trade with Mr. Stevens, in the office of the "Ontario Messenger," and started in business at Buffalo, in 1815. He was a rare and eccentric genius—full of wit, humor and fun, and wonderfully gifted with the rare and valuable faculty of making friends, and obtaining work. But he has run his race, and although unfortunate in some particulars, still he has left behind him the remembrance of many virtues. It may justly be said of him—the only enemy he had, was himself.

William A. Carpenter. Here is another name long identified with the

business of Printing in Western New-York. In 1818, his name is found associated with that of H. A. Salisbury in the publication of the "Buffalo Gazette." But long before this, he was engaged by Benjamin Blodgett—say in 1812 or '13—to publish the "Genesee Intelligencer," then the only paper printed at Batavia, in Genesee County. Mr. Carpenter has done much to build up and sustain the Newspaper Press, in this section of the State. In doing this, he has necessarily had to encounter many hardships and trials, but he rode out of the storm gallantly, and yet lives to witness the blessings that have been showered upon his country in the establishment of a Free Press. He is still a resident of the city of Buffalo.

Thomas M. Foote. Although the Doctor is not himself a practical Printer, he is, nevertheless, a practical Editor, and devotes himself with great assiduity to his profession. He has done much to raise the standard of the Press in Buffalo.

Almon M. Clapp. This gentleman is now one of the Editors of the "Morning Express." He is also a practical Printer, and one of the best of the craft. and through his exertions much has been contributed to the advancement of the art in Erie County.

Bradford A. Manchester, Jas. O. Brayman and Guy H. Salisbury, are the Editors and proprietors of the "Buffalo Courier," and are entitled to great credit for the perseverance, industry and skill with which they prosecute their calling.

It must not be expected that I can follow out the innumerable number of names that have been connected, at one time and another, with the Newspaper Press of Erie County. Although it would be a pleasure to do so, still I am fearful such a course would be the means of augmenting these pages unnecessarily, or at least beyond what the Committee might have anticipated of me. There are many names honorably connected with the Press in this County, and who have contributed in no small degree to its ultimate success, through all, and the many and serious difficulties it has encountered, whose personal history it would give me pleasure to narrate, were it not for the reason above assigned.

The history of the Press in this county is one of admonition and should be received as a lesson of caution by the aspirants for political or literary fame. Men who make politics a trade, are bad councillors to the young who are about to engage in the establishment of a newspaper. Generally, they are the first to volunteer their counsel, and promise aid—but in nine cases out of ten, "they have an ax to grind," and no sooner is that accomplished, than their promises are forgotten. The wants, and the business of a place, should be the guides in such a case. A want of attention to these simple rules would save many a young man from the mortification of a failure, and consequent embarrassment through life. Besides, there would not be so many ephemeral publications thrust upon the world, and by this means dividing a patronage among four, that is scarcely competent to sustain one

well conducted newspaper. The great mortality that has prevailed among the Newspaper press of Erie County is by no means an isolated case. Other counties, and other sections of country, present a similar state of things. If properly heeded by those who are to come after us, the lesson may be of infinite value.

### CATTARAUGUS COUNTY.

At a comparatively early day the attention of the Craft seems to have been directed to the intellectual wants of the inhabitants of this County.—It only adds another to the innumerable evidences already in hand, of the untiring perseverance and industry of Printers. Cattaraugus at the early day indicated, offered no peculiar inducements which called for the establishment of a Press within its borders. It may have had advantages, prospectively—but they have proved ideal and imaginary. But an opening was thought to present itself, and a Printer stood ready to embrace the opportunity.

In 1818, Benjamin Franklin Smead established at Olean, a paper called the "Allegany Mercury," which he continued about two years.

In 1826, Richard Hill commenced the publication of a paper at Ellicottville, which was continued for about three years.

G. N. Starr, in 1829, began the "Lodi Freeman and Messenger," at the Village of Lodi. He continued at its head for something like three years, when it passed into the hands of E. Hough; soon after which event it ceased to be published.

The "Ellicottville Republican," by Deloss E. Sill, was started in 1833, and continued for one year, when it was transferred to R. H. Shankland, by whom it has been continued under the title of "Cattaraugus Republican."

Rufus W. Griswold made another attempt, in 1836, to establish a paper at Olean, which he dignified with the title of "Olean Advocate." Its existence was brief—the old complaint, want of adequate support, soon killed it off. Out of the ruins of the "Advocate," like the Phoenix from the ashes, sprung the "Olean Times," by Dudley Bryan, who continued it for a year, and it then passed into the hands of Mr. Woodcock. Another year's probation, and the "Times" ended its career.

The "Cattaraugus Whig," by Deloss E. Sill, was commenced at Ellicottville, in 1840, and is still published by the original proprietor.

In 1842, J. J. Strong commenced at the Village of Randolph, the publication of the "Randolph Herald," which he continued for one year.

The prospect before Mr. Smead, when he located himself at Olean, must have been anything else than flattering to the young and joyous aspirations of a youthful adventurer after fame and fortune. But I am told he was strongly tinctured with the love of novelty, spiced with the spirit of ad-



venture. He thought, no doubt, from the topography of the country, that Olean at some future day was to rise up and be dignified with the title of true greatness—that a city in embryo lay hid among the waving forest, and like the cold and inanimate marble, it only required the effort of man to speak it into existence! As a powerful engine in this great and wonder-working process, a Press was necessary, and Fate stamped her seal upon Mr. Smead as the man to undertake it. He was a man of industry and perseverance, and contended stoutly against the tide that set against his hopes, but all in vain. Olean refused the destiny he had marked out for her, and in retaliation for so much and deep ingratitude, Mr. Smead abandoned her to her fate. The gentleman under consideration was not only a Printer, and an Editor, but also a Poet!—and as he contemplated the source from which Olean was to derive its greatness, would break forth in the following strain:

“As I stood on the banks of the deep Allegany,  
I saw the smoothe tide flow majestic along;  
I saw the high Mountain, the Valley and Daisey,  
And heard the last note of the Emigrant's song.”

Richard Hill was one of those rare, odd, and eccentric geniuses, so common with those who hail from the “Emerald Isle.” It seems he published a paper at Ellicottville about three years, but whether it was dignified with a title or not, has not transpired. Its publication depended entirely upon the fancy or caprice of Richard. It may be said to have been published semi-occasionally. If any thing worthy the Editor's note happened to travel over the hills of Cattaraugus, and reach the peaceful and pleasant village of Ellicottville, out came Richard's paper, duly chronicling the events of the day—on the contrary, if there was a want of news in the market, the issue was postponed. Mr. Sill, who furnished the facts in relation to the Press in this County, tells the following story of Richard:—“Some of our citizens will remember the burning of the Court House and Jail, in 1829, and the tour of Sheriff Saxton to Albany, with a view to get a law authorizing a new building. The trip was performed so expeditiously, that it is said the embers of the house were yet smoking, when Saxton arrived with the Act authorizing a new one! So great an event was celebrated by a general jubilee.—Dick, it is said, on this occasion, got so full of glee, that on returning home at night, he mistook Dr. Ward's house for his own, and cried out to Mrs. Ward, supposing her to be his wife, ‘Kape quiet—I say, kape quiet, Kate; Saxton has got home with the Court House in his pocket, and we shall have some news for the papers.’” It is related of him that he was one day discovered in the very literary pursuit of endeavoring to yoke a pig—the modus operandi was truly original. He bored a hole in a board, and then set to work driving it on over the nose, endeavoring thereby to stretch the hole to the capacity of the pig's neck! Richard's ideas in this matter did not coincide with those of the pig, and he abandoned the attempt in despair. His aspirations for Editorial fame



succeeded no better than his attempt to yoke the pig, and he abandoned the enterprise.

R. H. Shanklin, aside from his avocations as Publisher, and Editor of the "Cattaraugus Republican," has also found time to serve the people of that County in the capacity of Surrogate—a distinction not often accorded to the Editorial fraternity.

Rufus W. Griswold, who was at one time located at the head of navigation of the Allegany River, has abandoned the case, and also the pursuit of Newspaper editing, and has entered the field for literary fame. He is now a resident of Philadelphia, and his name will be readily recognized as the author of a number of works, especially the "Poetry of Flowers and Flowers of Poetry." He also compiled and edited the "Poets and Poetry of America." In 1835, he was engaged at the Printing business at Syracuse, but subsequently, however, he became a Baptist minister. It is no doubt fortunate for Mr. Griswold that Olean failed to yield him a competent support.

[From Graham's Magazine for June, 1845, we extract the following—Mr. G. was one of the regular contributors to that periodical. "He studied theology, was seduced from preaching into editing, forsook the newspapers to travel, and storing his mind richly by observation and study, settled down as a man of letters. He was always the ardent and sincere friend of the unfortunate. In 1840, in New-York, with the aid of a few others, he founded a library in The Tombs, and two Southern merchants, who then were in confinement there, subsequently presented him a piece of plate with the following inscription:

Post Nubila Phœbus.  
TO RUFUS WILMOT GRISWOLD,  
Who Brought Pleasure to Our Prison, and  
Made Us Forget Our Homes When  
We Were With Strangers.  
Ingratus unus miseris omnibus nocet.

His sermons are his finest compositions, and he delivers them from the pulpit with taste and eloquence."

Mr. G. is a man of uncommon ability, excellent taste, and very remarkable devotion to literature. His "Poets and Poetry of America," a work of great merit and popularity, has won him reputation on both sides of the Atlantic. No author among us has done so much in behalf of the nationality of American literature as he. His industry is indefatigable, and his energy unconquerable. Mr. G. affords an excellent example of what a Printer may become, and of the honor reflected upon the Craft by the learning and talent of its members. He is still a young man, and his friends indulge high expectations which few are better able to fulfil.—Eds. American.]

J. J. Strang, who published the "Randolph Herald," is now a prophet

among the Mormons at Voree. Whether he finds his new calling more congenial to his feelings than his old, I am unable to say.

There are other names connected with the Press of Cattaraugus, with the personal history of whom I am wholly unacquainted. Mr. Sill has committed one error in relation to the Press of this County, and had well nigh led me into it, also. Franklin Cowdery, June 10, 1819, commenced the publication of the "Hamilton Recorder," at Olean, which he printed one year, in company with a son of Benjamin F. Smead.

Mr Cowdery would have it understood that he printed the first paper in Cattaraugus County, which he says was in 1819. Mr. Sill says B. F. Smead commenced a paper at Olean in 1818—Here seems to be a direct contradiction, and I must leave it to others to reconcile it with the truth.

It has been the fortune of Mr. Cowdery to be engaged in the establishment of many newspapers—he has been the pioneer in many counties, but has always left the nest, when comfortably warmed, for others to occupy.

### CHAUTAUQUE COUNTY.

The struggles and vicissitudes through which those have passed in this County, who have engaged in the establishment of the Newspaper Press, have been many and varied. The first attempts were made when the county was new, and before its capacity and its resources were fully developed—success under such a state of things must always be looked upon as doubtful—indeed, the cases are very rare where the original founders of a newspaper, in a new county, have been successful in the undertaking. If ill success, therefore, has attended the craft in Chautauque County, in more cases than one, it is by no means a rarity confined to that county alone—they have only followed in the footsteps of those who have preceded them, in Western New-York, generally.

The first paper established in this County was the "Chautauque Gazette," at Fredonia, in 1817, by James Percival.\*

The "Chautauque Eagle," by Robert J. Curtis, was commenced at Mayville, in May, 1819, and was continued about a year.

The "Fredonia Censor," by Henry C. Frisbee, was commenced at Fredonia, in 1821. Mr. F. continued at its head for 17 years, when it passed into the hands of E. Winchester, by whom it was published three years. It then

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\* There seems to be a contrariety of opinion in relation to this. Mr. Frisbee, formerly of the "Censor," and the oldest Printer in the County, says—"This paper was conducted about five years, by James Hull, when it was discontinued for a year or two, and then again resumed by him; but after two or three years' faithful existence, it ceased to be." Mr. McKinstry, the present proprietor of the "Censor," says—"It was commenced by James Percival. \*\*\*\*\*This paper continued to be published successively by Percival, Carpenter & Hull, and James Hull, till sometime in 1822, when its publication was suspended." I am inclined to think Mr. McKinstry's version of the matter is correct. Mr. Frisbee does not allege that the paper was commenced by Mr. Hull.

came into the possession of R Cunningham, who published it one year. W. McKinstry then became the proprietor, by whom, and by W. McKinstry & Co. it has been published for the last five years.

The "Peoples' Gazette" was commenced in 1824, at Forrestville, by William S. Snow. It was continued for a short time, and then united with the "Chautauque Gazette," at Fredonia.

In June, 1826, Adolphus Fletcher commenced at Jamestown, the publication of the "Jamestown Journal." It is now published by Warren Fletcher, a son of the original proprietor.

The "Western Star," was commenced in June, 1829, at Westfield, by Henry Newcomb. It was continued for about two years.

In 1828 Morgan Bates commenced the publication of the "Chautauque Republican," at the village of Jamestown. It was continued for about five years, during which time it had some seven or eight different proprietors.

The "Genius of Liberty," a religious publication was commenced at Jamestown, in 1829, by Lewis C. Todd. It had an existence of about two years.

In 1834, the "Chautauque Whig," was started at Dunkirk, by Thompson & Carpenter, who continued it, jointly, or individually, until 1845. At a later period, it has been known by the name of the "Dunkirk Beacon."

The "Mayville Sentinel" was established in 1834, and printed by Timothy Kibby. In March, 1835, it passed into the hands of Beman Brockway, who published it for the proprietors until Dec. 1836, when he purchased the establishment. In 1837, H. E. Purdy became interested in the paper, and continued it for a year and a half, and then retired, leaving it in the hands of Mr. Brockway. It is still published at Mayville, by John F. Phelps.

The "Westfield Messenger" was commenced at the village indicated by its title, in August, 1844, by C. J. J. Ingersoll, by whom it is still published.

The "Frontier Express," was established in June, 1846, at Fredonia, by Perham & Cutler, and is still published by them.

The "Panama Herald" was commenced in the village of Panama, town of Harmony, in August, 1846, by Dean & Hulburt, and edited by Thomas Graham. It is now in the hands of Steward & Pray.

The above comprises only a part of the papers that have had an existence in this County. Some of them, however, have lived so short a time, that it can scarcely be said that they had an existence at all. I have not been furnished with the facts by which to enable me to say where, or when, they were published. The following, it is thought, embraces a full and perfect list of all the papers that are, or have been, published in this County, indicating the place where published. Of this number, only six remain to tell the fate of their associates:—

Mayville—Chautauque Eagle, Republican Banner, Mayville Sentinel, and the Tocsin, a temperance paper.

Fredonla—Chautauque Gazette, Fredonla Censor, Fredonla Gazette, Western Democrat and Literary Enquirer, The Pantheon, Frontler Express, and Botanic Medical Journal.

Westfield—Western Star, Chautauque Phoenix, American Eagle, Westfield Courier, Western Farmer, Westfield Lyceum, Westfield Advocate, Westfield Messenger.

Jamestown—Jamestown Journal, Genius of Liberty, Chautauque Republican.

Forrestville—Peoples' Gazette, Western Intelligencer.

Van Buren—Van Buren Times.

Dunkirk—Chautauque Whig, Dunkirk Beacon.

Panama—Panama Herald.

The papers at present published in the County seem to be tolerably well supported, the "Fredonia Censor" issuing weekly about 1000 papers—the "Jamestown Journal" 700—the "Mayville Sentinel" 1000—the "Westfield Messenger" 600, and the "Panama Herald" 500. If they are paying subscribers, this is very well—if, as is too often the case, they are mere men of straw, taking the paper without ever intending to pay, the number is altogether too large.

H. C. Frisbee, the original founder of the "Fredonia Censor," seems to have fought his way through great, and what would have appeared to some minds, insurmountable difficulties and obstacles, in establishing himself in business. "With a hired establishment—the materials of which would now be looked upon as a perfect burlesque, the Press having been manufactured by a blacksmith and carpenter in one of the new towns in Ohio, and the types, which were few in quantity, mostly worn down to the 'third nick'—with some forty subscribers, and for the first three weeks not a single paying advertisement—he commenced the flattering career of editor and proprietor of a newspaper." His principal assistant in type setting the first year was a lad some nine years of age, and on publication days he called in his neighbor, a painter in a chair shop, [H. H. Seaver, of Rochester,] who assisted him at the Press, in the capacity of ball-man. To lessen his expenses, which from the meagre patronage he was receiving, became an absolute duty, he lodged himself before the office fire. Could success be doubtful with such a man? By no means. By great industry, and the practice of the most rigid economy, he forced the "fickle goddess" to smile upon him. Such men deserve success, and under the peculiar and favorable institutions of our country, scarcely ever fail to command it. Such is the early career of Mr. Frisbee. It is worthy the imitation of members of the craft at the present day.

B. Brockway, who was for many years at the head of the "Mayville Sen-

tnel," is another notable instance of what may be effected by industry and economy. These necessary prerequisites to success in almost any undertaking in life, were the capital upon which he commenced business. He has made good use of the investment. He is now the Editor and proprietor of the "Oswego Palladium," and I am happy to learn he is on the high road to success.

Of the other gentlemen who have been associated with the Press in this County, I know but little—not enough to warrant me in speaking of their personal history. This County, like most others in Western New-York, has been prolific in the number of its newspaper establishments, and has consisted of the usual assortment—good, bad, and indifferent.

#### ORLEANS COUNTY.

The history of the Press in this county is embraced in a comparatively small compass.—Whether the inducements held out for the establishment of the Newspaper Press in this County have been less than others—or whether the craft have been forewarned from the results that have followed the attempt in other counties, I am unable to determine—the fact, however, is undeniable, that fewer attempts have been made in Orleans to establish the Press, regardless of the ability of a place to support such an establishment than in almost any other county in Western New-York.

In 1822, while the present County of Orleans was a part of Genesee County, Seymour Tracy made an attempt to establish the first newspaper ever printed within its limits. The paper was published at Gaines, and was called "The Gazette." It was continued about four years.

In 1823, Franklin Cowdery commenced the publication, at Newport, (now Albion,) of the "Newport Patriot." He continued it for nearly two years. In Feby. 1825, the establishment passed into the hands of Timothy C. Strong, who soon after changed its name to that of "The Orleans Advocate." In February, 1828, Mr. Strong again changed the name of his paper, calling it "The Orleans Advocate and Anti-Masonic Telegraph." In Feb. 1829, another annual change took place by dropping the word "Advocate," leaving the title to read the "Orleans Anti-Masonic Telegraph." In the June following, "Anti-Masonic" was discarded, and it stood forth simply as the "Orleans Telegraph." But the spirit of change did not stop here—it soon after assumed the title of "American Standard." In March 1830, J. Kempshall became proprietor of the establishment, and continued its publication until Sept. 1832, when it again came into the possession of Mr. Strong, and took the name of "The Orleans American." In April, 1844, Mr. Strong disposed of the establishment to J. & J. H. Denio, by whom it has since been published.

Daniel P. Adams, published a paper at Medina in 1833 or '34—but what was the name of it, or how long it was published, I have not been able to learn.



In August, 1837, J. & J. H. Denio established a paper at Medina, which they continued until May, 1842, called the "Medina Sentinel."

In October, 1829, C. S. McConnell commenced, at Albion, the publication of the "Orleans Republican," which he continued until Feb. 1841, when he disposed of the establishment to H. W. Depuy, who continued it for a few months, and it then passed into the hands of an association of gentlemen, and was thus continued until 1845, when H. E. Purdy assumed the charge of it, and in July, 1846, C. S. McConnell again became the Editor and proprietor of the "Orleans Republican."

Many of the citizens of Genesee County, at least, will remember Seymour Tracy—a "one legged Tracy," as he was usually called. Previous to starting the paper at Gaines he resided at Batavia, but his grossly intemperate habits unfitted him for business—and for certain reasons was held in low estimation where he was best known. No wonder, then, that his attempt at Gaines was an unsuccessful one.

Of Mr. Cowdery I have before spoken. In the "Genesee Olio," of 30th Jan'y. 1847, a semi-monthly, which he now published in Rochester, Mr. Cowdery says—"We were also first, and did the very first printing ever done in Orleans County." This statement is at variance with that furnished by Mr. Denio, in relation to Printing in this County, which is, that Mr. Tracy established himself in business at Gaines, in 1822, and Mr. Cowdery, at Albion, in 1823. The fact is not, perhaps, material in itself, although if Mr. Cowdery was the pioneer of Printing in this County, he should have the credit for it. \*

Timothy C. Strong was originally, I believe, from Vermont, and previous to his establishment in Orleans County was the conductor of a paper at Palmyra, in Wayne County. He was a man possessed of many good qualities, and contributed his proportion in the establishment of the Newspaper Press in Western New-York. But he has worked his last token, and been called to another world.

Of the Messrs. Denio, I have no personal knowledge. The senior in the firm is of opinion that Printing during the time when Mr. Tracy flourished at Gaines, commanded a better return for labor than at the present day. He cites as an instance going to prove this fact, that Tracy charged the County eighty dollars for printing two reams of county orders, and that the Supervisors actually allowed the account of sixty-eight dollars! But the days for such prices have gone by. Steam and competition have made sad work upon high prices.

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\* Since writing the above I have conversed with John B. Wood, who is one of the "old Jours" of Western New-York, and he asserts, from his own knowledge, that the credit of doing the first printing in Orleans County, is justly due Mr. Cowdery. My own impression is, that the first paper published at Gaines was called "The Newspaper." This was by Mr. Tracy. The establishment afterwards fell into the hands of John Flisk, who has been entirely omitted by Mr. Denio, and the paper was called "The Gazette." Mr. Fisk is now, and has been for a number of years past, in the employ of the Tonawanda Rail Road Company.



C. S. McConnell, before his location in Orleans County, conducted a paper in Onondaga. Soon after relinquishing his interest in the "Orleans Republican," he became a proprietor in the "Rochester Daily Advertiser," where he prosecuted the business successfully for a few years, and finally, in 1846, returned to Albion, and is again at the head of his old paper. Mr. McConnell is a true disciple of Franklin, and an honest man.

Of the others who have been identified with the Press in this County, I can say nothing—with some of them I was a stranger, and do not therefore feel at liberty to meddle with matters entirely personal in their character.

## LIVINGSTON COUNTY

This County cannot claim an exemption from the common lot which is too often the result of newspaper printing. What has been the fate of the craft in other counties, may be said to be more or less true of those in Livingston County. They have been attended by the usual mutations, changes, and final extinction, which follow in the wake of all human affairs. The first paper printed within the territory that now marks the bounds of this County, was commenced

In 1817, by Hezekiah Ripley, and was called the "Moscow Advertiser and Genesee Farmer." It was located in the village of Moscow. He continued it for some time after the erection of the County, in 1821, when it passed into the hands of James Percival, and was by him removed to Geneseo, and its name changed to that of "Livingston Register." In 1829, it passed into the hands of Anson M. Weed and Allen Warner. Mr. Weed died in the winter of 1831, and it was continued for a short time by the surviving partner, when it passed into the hands of Mr. Percival, who, in 1832, sold it to Elias Clark, who continued it until he was elected County Clerk, in 1834, when he disposed of it to William H. Kelsey and Richard M. Miel, and the latter, in 1835, became sole proprietor. He was succeeded by D. S. Curtis, and its publication was suspended in 1837. It soon after, however, recovered its position, and for a short time was published by Hugh Harding, who was succeeded, in 1837, by John Kempshall, and continued by him until the fall of 1840, when it ceased to exist.

In 1822, Chauncy Morse established the "Livingston Journal," at Geneseo, and afterwards took into copartnership Asahel Harvey. In 1829, Levi Hovey became the proprietor of the establishment, and continued it until the spring of 1831. He became embarrassed, and abandoned the paper, and was succeeded by Benjamin Denison—then H. F. Evans, Evans & Woodruff, and William J. Ticknor. The paper was discontinued in 1834 or '35. In the fall of the latter year the establishment was purchased by David Mitchell and W. H. Kelsey, who established the "Livingston Democrat." This paper was suspended in the year 1837. In the fall of that year a new Press and types were added to the establishment, and S. P. Allen commenced the publication

of the "Livingston Republican," and in September, 1846, retired, leaving it in the hands of John M. Campbell, by whom it is now published.

In 1830, David Mitchell and Benjamin Denison established the "Dansville Chronicle," at the village indicated by its title. It was started as a neutral paper, but afterwards came out Anti-Masonic, when Mr. Denison left it. Its title was changed to that of "Village Record." It had but a short existence.

The "Western New-Yorker," at Dansville, was published by A. Stevens & Son. The "Dansville Whig," by George W. Stevens succeeded it, and was continued by Charles W. Dibble, for one year, when it was again transferred to Mr. Stevens, by whom it is now published.

The "Dansville Republican," was established by David Fairchild, in 1842, and has been continued alternately by himself and his sons. It is now published by Geo. H. Bidwell.

The "Mount Morris Spectator" as established in 1835, by Hugh Harding. It is still published by him.

The "Genesee Valley Recorder" was established by Ira G. Wisner, and was published for a short time in 1842-3, at Mount Morris. Mr. W. died not long since at the West.

The "Livingston County Whig," by Geo. B. Phelps, was commenced in 1843, at Mount Morris. It is now in the hands of James T. Norton. For a few months a Daily was issued from this office, but it is now discontinued.

The "Genesee Democrat," was commenced at Genesee, in 1843, by Gilbert F. Shankland, and is still continued by him.

Mr. Ripley, the founder of the first paper in this County, is now in one of the Western States. From the best intelligence I can obtain, he is in Belvidere, Illinois. After throwing up his hand, and relinquishing the Printing business in this part of the State, he was for a while, the keeper of a public house at Lakeville, Dansville and Hammondsport—but the probability is he found this business as thankless and unprofitable as Printing, and resolved to try his fortune in the West. He is a clever, honest and intelligent man, but is too unstable in his purposes to succeed well.

Mr. Percival has been seized with a migratory fit, and leaving the scene of his former labor, he next appears before the public as the Editor of a paper in Butler County, Ohio, and more recently at Lancaster, in the same State. The Press upon which the first paper in this County was printed, was an old Ramage, upon which the "Albany Argus" was once printed. It is now in the office of the "Mount Morris Spectator."

Mr. Kempshall. Of this individual, Mr. Allen in his notes of "Early Times" in this County, says—"Since leaving here he has been a Dorr Patriot in Rhode Island, a 'Jour' in New-York and elsewhere, but several years since we lost trace of him. He was a noble-hearted, generous fellow, unfortunate, and often troubled with what he called 'blue devils,' or melancholy. Wa

should not be surprised to hear of him in Oregon or California. He was a brother of Hon. Thomas Kempshall, of Rochester."

But I must bring this sketch to a close. It must not be expected of me that in these running notices, I can particularize all who have been interested in the Press in Livingston, or any other County. There are various reasons which render it impossible for me to do so. In very many instances the readers of these pages will be able to supply any omissions that may be the result of want of time, or the facilities of information, to make them complete.

## WAYNE COUNTY

The territory embraced in the now County of Wayne, was originally a part of Ontario. The Press found its way into it, however, while it was yet a branch of the original tree. But then, the local causes which are so prolific in giving life to newspaper establishments did not operate with that force, that they did after its separate organization as a County. Then it is, that rival villages, local causes, and many other considerations well known to the hopes and expectations of men who fancy they have written upon their brow the certain index of future greatness, call for the establishment of that great level of public opinion—the Press. These causes are general in their nature, and have operated, no doubt, more or less in this County.

The first paper established in the territory now constituting the County of Wayne, was by Timothy C. Strong, at Palmyra, and was called the "Palmyra Register." This took place on the 26th day of November, 1817. This Press was continued by Mr. Strong, with occasional changes of title—for which he was particularly famous—until October, 1823, when it passed into the hands of Pomeroy Tucker, and its then title, the "Western Farmer and Canal Advocate," superseded by that of "Wayne Sentinel," which name it still retains, and is now conducted by Mr. Tucker.

The "Lyons Republican," was established at the village of Lyons, August 3, 1821, by George Lewis, and was discontinued Feb. 22, 1822.

The "Lyons Advertiser" was commenced at the same place, on the 31st May, 1822, by Hiram T. Day. This paper underwent various changes of name, and was successively published by Ephraim J. Whitney, E. J. & W. W. Whitney, Barker & Chapman, Chapman & Chapman, and William F. Ashley, and is now published, with the title of "Western Argus," by Chas. Poucher.

On the 11th of March, 1828, the "Palmyra Freeman" made its appearance at Palmyra, published by D. D. Stephenson. He was shortly afterwards succeeded by J. A. Hadley, who subsequently removed the establishment to Lyons, where the paper was continued under the title of "The Countryman," with Myron Holley as associate Editor, and was thus continued until Nov. 1831; when its publication was suspended for a season. It was afterwards resumed as the "Lyons American," by Myron Holley; and in 1836, the es-

establishment was removed to Clyde, where it reappeared as the "Clyde Gazette," by Denison Cord. The present "Clyde Eagle," by Stephen Salisbury, Jr., is believed to be a continuation of the same concern, although after a suspension of a number of years.

In 1828, '29 and '30, a monthly paper entitled "The Reflector," devoted to science, ironical castigation, and amusement, by "O. Dogberry, Jr.," was published at Palmyra, the whole term of its existence being about two years.

In November, 1829, "The Newark Republican" was established at the village of Newark, by Jeremiah O. Balch, and was continued by him until July, 1831, when the paper was discontinued.

In June, 1838, David M. Keeler commenced the publication in the same village, of the "Wayne Standard," and it was continued by him until August, 1839, when he disposed of it to an association of gentlemen, by whom it was continued under the name of the "Newark Aegls," Stephen Culver officiating as Editor, and F. G. Norton and G. W. Gould, as Printers, until January, 1840, at which time Norton and Gould became the ostensible proprietors, and for awhile thus continued by them jointly, and then by Norton alone, the same Editor officiating until May, 1840, when the establishment reverted back to the association, and the paper was discontinued.

In July or August, 1840, David M. Keeler again assumed the publication of the paper under its former name, "The Wayne Standard," until July, 1843, when it passed into the hands of H. L. Winants, who continued its publication for about one year, and it was then discontinued.

The "Western Spectator and Wayne Advertiser," was commenced at Palmyra, by Luther Howard, and Erastus Shepard, June 9, 1830. In April, 1831, the title of the paper was changed to "Spectator and Anti-Masonic Star," and continued by Mr. Shepard until, in the same year it was merged in the "Anti-Masonic Inquirer," at Rochester.

The "Palmyra Whig," by Wm. H. and Saml. Cole, was commenced at Palmyra in February, 1838. It was afterwards removed to Lyons, where it is still continued as the "Wayne County Whig," by William H. Coie.

The first number of the present "Palmyra Courier," by F. Morley, was issued May 28, 1845, and is still published by him.

The above, I am aware, is imperfect in many particulars—but I am not sufficiently well acquainted with the facts in the case to make an intelligible correction. Mr. Tucker, who furnished the facts so far as they have been given, refers to Mr. Winants, of the "Rochester Daily Advertiser," to furnish the data in relation to the Press in the village of Newark. Mr. W. promised me he would do so, but I have never heard from him on the subject.

Myron Holley, whose connection with the Press is above adverted to, acted a distinguished part in the public affairs of Western New-York. He was one of the original Canal Commissioners, and afterwards a leading politician

of the Anti-Masonic party. In his later years he removed to Rochester, and attached himself politically to the Anti-Slavery or Liberty organization. He died at Rochester, and his remains repose in the beautiful cemetery of Mount Hope, under an obelisk erected by his Liberty party friends.

Mr. H. was a gentleman of fine taste, irreproachable life, uncommon talents, and great uprightness of character.

E. B. Gradin was at one time the conductor of the "Wayne Sentinel," but his name does not appear as connected with that paper, in its proper place. It is true, Mr. Tucker says, in a sort of codicil to the statement of the Press in this County that, "the largest printing job ever done in it, was the first edition of Jo Smith's 'book of Mormon,' or the 'Golden Bible.' This was done at the office of the "Wayne Sentinel," by E. B. Gradin, the then publisher of that paper, in 1829-'30. The edition of the work was 5000 copies, and the price paid for the job, including the binding was \$3,000." If other omissions have occurred, and it is possible there have, the fault must be charged to others, not to me.

Graham H. Chapin, who was at one time connected with the Press in this County, is now no more. He was a Lawyer by profession—a worthy, upright and honorable man. For one or two terms he represented Wayne and Seneca in the Congress of the United States—subsequently, upon his removal to the city of Rochester, he was District Attorney of Monroe, and so far as I am aware, in all these stations, discharged his duty with the most scrupulous fidelity. He died while in the execution of his professional duties.

J. A. Hadley, who was for a time interested in the Newspaper Press at Palmyra, and also, at Lyons, still lives to honor the profession of which he is a worthy member. No man within the sphere of our acquaintance takes a stronger, or a more decided stand for the improvement of the members of the craft, or the craft itself, than Hadley. He is a practical Printer, and a good one. While he had charge of the "Freeman," in 1829, he wrote and published the first article that ever appeared against "Mormonism." He had previously had the printing of the "Book of Mormon" offered him, and at a price which would have made it a fat job; but he was not to be bought in this way—his love of truth and justice were greater than his love of money—and being satisfied in his own mind that Smith was an imposter, he considered it his duty to do all in his power to "ungown him." The task, however, cost him the few subscribers he had, predisposed to "Mormonism." Upon the heels of that article followed the general newspaper war upon the "golden humbug." Mr. Hadley is now the Foreman in the establishment of the "Rochester Daily Democrat."

The Press in this County seems now to have assumed a position of considerable permanency and stability, and I most sincerely hope and trust that those engaged in it are reaping a reward commensurate with their deservings. As a general thing, however, this is far from being the case.



## NIAGARA COUNTY

This County has made wonderful advances in the way of improvement, and especially since Erie was set off from it in 1821. Since that time the "Cataract County" stands forth as one of the most prominent among those of Western New-York. Her advantages in soil, timber, and water power, have been an inexhaustible source of wealth to her citizens, and have given ample scope for the employment of labor and capital.

The first paper printed in the County was located at Lewiston, where it was continued for a short time by Bartimeus Ferguson, who was from Canada—the establishment was one that had been brought from Scotland, by Andrew Heron, and used for several years in Canada, mostly at Niagara. In the winter of 1822, Ferguson removed his establishment to Lockport, the County Buildings having been located there, and the village just commenced. The title he gave his paper was the "Lockport Observatory." In August, 1822, it passed into the hands of Orsamus Turner, who continued its publication until 1826. Soon after the paper was removed to Lockport, another took its place at Lewiston with the title of "Lewiston Sentinel," by Oliver Grace. In 1826, the two papers were united at Lockport under the title of the "Sentinel and Observatory," by Turner & Grace, for a short time, and afterwards by Chipman P. Turner and N. D. Lathrop. In 1828, the establishment went into the hands of Asa Story, and its name changed to that of "Lockport Journal." In 1829, it was purchased by Peter Besancon, Jr., and after a short time its name was changed to that of "Lockport Balance." In 1833 or '34, a paper that had been in existence a short time, printed by P. Baker, and called "The Gazette," was merged with it, and it afterwards sported the name of "Balance and Gazette," by Baker & Besancon. During the same year in which the alliance was formed, it was again dissolved, and Besancon became the sole proprietor—changed the name back to "Balance," and shortly afterwards sold out to Isaac C. Colton, who published it until 1836, and then sold out to Thomas H. Hyatt—he published it until the winter of 1837, and sold out to Turner & Lyon, who, in 1835, had started the "Niagara Democrat," with which paper the "Balance" was finally merged. Turner & Lyon published the "Democrat" until 1839, and then sold out to T. P. Scoville. The paper was continued by him, with the exception of two years, when it was in the hands of Samuel Wright, until August, 1846, when it passed into the hands of Turner & M'Collum, by whom it is now published.

In 1827, the "Niagara Courier" was started in Lockport, by Mitchener Cadwallader. In 1834, he sold it to George Reece. In 1839, Reece disposed of it to Thomas T. Flagler. In 1843, it passed into the hands of Crandall & Brigham, by whom the paper is still continued.

In April, 1846, Stevens & Humphrey commenced the publication of the "Niagara Cataract" at Lockport, and the paper is still published by Mr. Henry and Mr. Fox, to which latter gentleman Mr. Stevens disposed of his interest in February, 1847.



In 1828 or '29, a small paper was started at Lockport, and continued for about two years, which gloried in the name of "Prlestcraft Exposed." It was printed by Edwin A. Cooley.

About the period of the "Patriot War," a paper was published at Lewiston called, I believe, the "Frontier Sentinel," by T. P. Scoville.

The above is supposed to comprise a full list of the different papers that have been published in this County. If any are omitted, it is through mistake—not by design.

Orsamus Turner may be regarded as the father of the Press in this County. It is true, he was not the first to lift the curtain through which the intellectual light of the Press was to be let in upon the denizens of Niagara—but soon after the experiment was made, he was found at the helm, and either as a Publisher, Editor or assistant Editor, has continued at his post from 1822, to the present time. Mr. Turner is a strong and vigorous writer—quick to perceive and prompt to execute his purposes. For one or two years he was Collector of Canal Tolls at Lockport—a post of great responsibility, the duties of which he discharged with entire satisfaction to the public, and with credit to himself.

David S. Crandall. This gentleman is senior Editor of the "Courier." He is not a practical Printer—but he is at home in almost everything else. David is a rare and eccentric genius—full of fun, music and frolic. Well do I remember the many times that he has relieved the dull monotony of a long and tiresome stretch through the Texan Prairies, by his ever ready wit, and the constant effervescence of his full and generous spirit. Nothing discouraged him, or in the least damped his ardor. Whether longing for water, or drenched with rain—whether bedded for the night in the open Prairie, surrounded by howling wolves, or cramped with the gnawings of hunger, he was always the same. Cool and determined, he was never thrown off his guard. A better companion or a truer friend does not exist. Since his return from the South he has been once or twice elected Clerk of Niagara County, and has now vaulted into the Editorial chair. It is entirely unnecessary for me to say he has my best wishes for his success.

Isaac C. Colton has left the Press, and taken to the profession of the law. He is still a resident of Lockport.

Chipman P. Turner was for a time connected with the Press of this County. He possesses many good qualities, both of the head and heart, and has been variously connected in business. He is now Deputy Collector for the Port of Black Rock.

Thomas F. Flagler was for a number of years at the head of the "Courier" establishment, and during the time he was in business, he was twice returned a member of the Legislature from Niagara County.

## CHEMUNG COUNTY

With the history of the Press in this County it can hardly be supposed, that I should have any personal knowledge. I have not, and therefore rely entirely upon others for the facts in regard to it. The facts which follow in regard to this subject have been furnished by C. G. Fairman and are no doubt mainly correct.

The first paper ever printed in this County was called the "Telegraph." It was established in the village of Newton, now Elmira, by Prindle & Murphy. Mr. Fairman says he has obtained a copy of it, and that it is a rare relic of antiquity—the paper upon which it is printed, would in these days be considered unfit for wrapping. This was soon discontinued, and the "Vedette" took its place. In size and appearance this paper followed very nearly in the footsteps of its predecessor. This latter paper lived its allotted time on earth and was succeeded by the "Tioga Register," by Job A. Smith in 1822. In 1828 its title was changed to that of "Elmira Gazette." In 1831, Brinton Paine became associated with Mr. Smith. Mr. Paine continued in the establishment until March, 1833, when he retired, leaving it in the hands of Mr. Smith. In 1835, Mr. Paine purchased the establishment, and was its sole proprietor, employing Thomas Maxwell as Editor. In 1837, Cyrus Pratt became connected with Mr. Paine, and Mr. Maxwell retired from the Editorial chair. In 1838, Mr. Pratt bought out Mr. Paine. In 1839, it was printed by Pratt & Beardsley, who continued its publication until 1841, when it passed into the hands of Mason & Rhodes, who are its present publishers.

The "where-about" and "what-about" of its various publishers, is a difficult matter to determine. Mr. Paine, however, is still in Elmira, engaged in the Drug and Medicine business. Mr. Maxwell resides in Geneva.

The "Elmira Republican," says Mr. Fairman, as near as can be ascertained, was launched into existence in the "Dark Ages." The first tangible period in its history is 1828, when it was purchased by a company, and for the first year thereafter was called the "Elmira Whig"—James Durham being its publisher. Then came an interregnum of six months. In 1829, it re-appeared again under the management of C. Morgan—William Murphy, Editor. It was now called the "Elmira Republican and Canal Advertiser." It soon after passed into the hands of John Duffy, and reverted back to its original simplicity, being called the "Elmira Republican." In 1832, it was bought of the company by Birdsall & Huntly. It was conducted by them until March, 1826, when Mr. Huntly retired, and the paper was continued by Ransom Birdsall until 1841, when it was purchased by Polley & Caster, by whom it was conducted one year. Mr. Caster then disposed of his interest to D. M. Cook who subsequently purchased the entire concern. Three months after this event, Mr. Cook died, and the paper passed into the hands of E. S. Huntly and William Polley, under the firm name of Wm. Polley & Co. It was conducted by them for two years, when in November, 1845, they disposed of the establishment to S. B. & G. C. Fairman. In July, 1846, the former re-

tired, leaving it in the hands of the latter gentleman. In June, 1846, under the Telegraph excitement, the "Elmira Daily Republican" was issued. But it proved an unprofitable experiment, and in about two months was abandoned.

The "Democratic Citizen," published at Jefferson, was established about three years ago by J. I. Hendrix. He is still its publisher and Editor. The Press upon which it is printed was formerly used to print a paper at Horseheads, the name and date of which I have been unable to ascertain. The same Press was subsequently used in the office of the "Chemung Democrat," which was published at Havana a short time. This did not meet with sufficient support, and it was removed to Jefferson, and the "Democratic Citizen" established.

The paper is now called the "Havana Republican" has been published about twelve years. It was established by Nelson Colegrove, and has been published by several different individuals—among whom were Barlow Nye, and T. I. Taylor. Its present Editor and proprietor is W. H. Ongly.

The above, according to Mr. Fairman's own opinion of the matter, is an imperfect sketch—owing mainly to the fact that those who had it in their power to render it more complete and full, failed to supply him with the requisite data to enable him to carry out his original design.

#### CAYUGA COUNTY

The attempt was made at an early day to establish the Press in this County, dating back to 1798. Henry Oliphant in his letter to the Committee puts forth the following interrogatory—"What other County in the Western District had a paper as early as 1798?" This he will find answered by a reference to the County of Steuben, where he will find a paper was established as early as 1796. Cayuga must therefore yield the palm. In June, 1845, Mr. Oliphant published the following in his paper, under the head of "The Past and Present." As it embodies the kind of information sought, I shall give it as I there find it, in preference to any remarks of my own:—

"The first newspaper printed in what now constitutes the County of Cayuga, of which we have any knowledge was the "Levana Gazette, or Onondaga Advertiser"—a small affair of 17 inches by 20, printed by R. Delano, in 'Scipio, Onondaga county, S. N. Y.' July 20th, 1798—Terms \$2 per annum. The 3rd No. is before us, printed upon paper that would now scarcely be thought suitable for wrapping—as likewise the No. for November 21st of the same year, which owing to the failure of the paper-maker to supply the requisite quantity of paper, or to the falling off of custom, is greatly reduced in size, being only 15 inches by 19—and printed upon paper which can scarcely be compared to the coarsest and bluest of the tobacco paper of the present day.—Another paper—the "Western Luminary"—of similar character and appearance was published for a short period at Watkin's Settlement Scipio—and when, in 1799, Cayuga County was formed, and the county busi-

ness transacted for the time being at Aurora, the office of "The Aurora Gazette," was soon to be observed, located in a log edifice a little towards the south end of the village. This was published by Messrs. H. & J. Pace, upon type which had probably done good service in the old world for some twenty, thirty, or forty years, the long s of which and numerous other traits bearing evidence of its antiquity—and which after the removal of the county buildings to this village in 1805, was used in enlightening our early citizens through the columns of the "Western Federalist." Its first competitor, if we mistake not, in 1814, the "Cayuga Patriot," originally issued from the upper story of a wagon maker's shop in Mechanic street, (then Lumber Lane,) forming a small weekly quarto of 8 pages—which has now for many years been published in another shape by Mr. Isaac S. Allen. Then came (in 1816) the "Auburn Gazette," which, in typographical and business appearance, was very far ahead of any thing to be found in this section. It was commenced by Messrs. Skinner & Crosby, the former of whom was still connected with the business as publisher of the "Gazette, Republican and Journal," until January, 1841.

In 1824, the "Auburn Free Press" was commenced by Mr. Richard Oliphant, and although at that time the sheet upon which it was issued was thought to be of a monstrous size—being larger than any of the preceding publications in this section, yet it now appears scarcely credible that it was not near half the size of our present sheet—its number of inches being 520, while ours is 1176. In the above list of papers we have overlooked the "Cayuga Tocsin," commenced at Union Springs, in 1812, which after a brief career there, was removed to this town, soon to lie down among the things that were—only to be called to mind at this day by the establishment of its namesake in 1839—now published by Messrs. J. C. Merrell & Co.

Until the time of the establishment of the Free Press, in 1824, the old Ramage or Screw Press, was the only kind used in this section—and until 1829 the only mode adopted in the bestowment of Ink upon the form or type, was by the use of large, heavy, clumsy leather balls. But from that time improvements have rapidly followed each other. The introduction of the Washington Cast Iron Press, in '24, accompanied as it was, by the composition roller, in '29, had greatly reduced the labor previously experienced—and the still more recent invention of Seth Adams & Co., of Boston, one of which has just been procured by us, cannot fail to make a still more thorough change in every thing connected more especially with book-printing. This press, with the assistance of one person to supply it with paper, and another to turn the wheel, will get off more than four times as many sheets in the course of a day, as the article in ordinary use; and when it is considered that each sheet may be of double the usual size generally used upon the old press, the great advantage will be apparent to all. It is a beautiful invention; and judging from its workings for the few days it has been in operation, promises to work admirably—making books at a rate which only a few years since, would have been looked upon as altogether

beyond belief. With the exception of a few of this invention in New-York, and a single one in Albany, this is believed to be the only article of the kind in the State, affording advantages to such of our publishers as wish to avail themselves of its expeditious movements—and to our citizens generally, a view of one of the finest specimens of mechanism ever formed."

The publication of the above article by Mr. Oliphant seems to have aroused the dormant early recollections of our friend Weed of the "Albany Journal," and called forth the following, which is too good to be lost. Speaking of the article quoted above, Mr. Weed says:

"Here is a delightful reminiscence. It recalls events and brightens images which would have long since faded out, had they not left their impressions upon the mind in its spring-time. Who that remembers Western New-York thirty-five years ago, can look upon the change without amazement? Instead of the every day, gradual progress which industry and enterprise, guided by intelligence, accomplishes, it seems as if some Fairy had passed through the wilderness, converting, by a touch of its wand, tangled forests into waving fields, log-cabins into splendid mansions, Indian wigwams into Christian Temples, and blind foot-paths into Railroads and Canals.

"Thirty-three years ago, every newspaper in this State, and nearly all in the Union, were as familiar to our eye as that which now bears our imprint. Then each Exchange Paper had its appropriate wire, and was regularly filed. Then Printing was quite another affair. Machinery has robbed "the Art preservative of all Arts" of much of its glory. Rollers and Steam do the work which Franklin performed. Printers now learn but half the duties which pertained to our craft in other days.

"The allusions in this article to the "Western Federalist," the "Cayuga Tocsin," and the "Cayuga Patriot," carry us back to an early period in the history of the Press of Western New-York. We shall never forget Messrs. H. & J. Pace, of the "Western Federalist," at whose office we called in 1812, when on our way to obtain a situation in the "Cayuga Tocsin" office. Those dumpy little Englishmen were mounted upon stools, setting type that must have been cast soon after the Reformation, for they were worn nearly down to the first nick. Everything about the office, including its Proprietors, would have induced the belief that they came out of the Ark, if there had been authority for supposing that Father Noah took a Printing Office on board.

"After resting a few hours at Auburn, we footed it on to "Spring Mills," in the "Old Town of Scipio," where we renewed our acquaintance with the space-box and shooting-stick, in the "Tocsin" office, a paper that rejoiced in one "Royal T. Chamberlain," as its "Editor and Proprietor." Scipio was then the largest and richest town in Western New-York. They have since cut it up into four or five towns.



"The Printing Office was situated upon the Lake, but we boarded some three miles back, with the Proprietor's Father. The walk from the farm to the office, in the grey of the morning, and the return at twilight, was always delightful. The country was just passing from the primeval to the pastoral state, so beautifully illustrated in Cole's magnificent picture of the Course of Time. We were quite enchanted, and looked forward to much enjoyment there. But our hopes were soon dashed. Our 'Editor and Proprietor' fell in love! Miss S——, who won his heart, rejected his hand! Instead of consoling himself with the philosophy which assures us that there are as good fish in the sea as those that refuse to be caught, he would sit whole days upon a particular log looking at the house in which the idol of his affections resided. Business was of course neglected, and in a few weeks the 'Tocsin' ceased to sound its alarms.

"Nor shall we ever forget the 'upper story of a wagon-maker's shop' where the 'Cayuga Patriot' was first printed, for there we worked and played and laughed away most of the winter of 1814. Samuel R. Brown, who published the 'Patriot,' was an honest, amiable, easy, slipshod sort of a man, whose patient, good-natured wife was 'cut from the same piece.' Mr. Brown, the year before, had been established at Albany with a paper called the "Republican," under the auspices of Gov. Tompkins, Chief Justice Spencer, and other distinguished Republicans, with whom Mr. Southwick, of the 'Register,' and then State Printer, had quarrelled. But the enterprise, like every other in our old friend Brown's hands, failed, and he next found himself at Auburn, then a small village without a sidewalk or pavement, and save Sacket's Harbor, the muddiest place we ever saw. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were originals. Neither of them, so far as we remember, ever lost temper or even fretted. The work in the office, was always behind hand, and the house always in confusion. The paper was never out in season, and neither breakfast nor dinner were ever ready. But it was all the same. Subscribers waited for the paper until it was printed, and we waited for our meals until they were cooked. The office was always full of loungers communicating or receiving news. And but for an amateur type-setter, (Richard Oliphant, late editor of the 'Oswego County Whig,' and brother of the Editor of the 'Auburn Journal,') to whom we became much attached, and who, though a mere boy, used to do a full share of the work, the business would have fallen still farther behind hand. It is not perhaps unworthy of remark here, that three excellent and much esteemed Printers, became such, without dreaming of their destiny, in consequence of attachments we formed for them in their childhood. We allude to Richard Oliphant, of Oswego, the late John Visscher, of this city, and the late E. P. Pellett, of the "Chenango Telegraph." John Visscher, when a mere boy, the son, as we then supposed, of affluence, living next door to the 'Albany Register Office,' passed all his leisure time with us, and became, without any expectation of pursuing the business, a good Printer. This proved most fortunate, for when adversity came upon his Home, he was master of a profession which rendered him



independent. Mr. Pellett when a boy worked upon his father's farm, a mile from the village of Norwich, but the moment the labor of the day was over, he started for our office, where for months, he was assiduously and diligently employed. Some years afterwards, when he had moved to Rochester, and a paper was wanted at Norwich, the Farmer's Son left his plough and became its Printer, Publisher and Editor, in all of which positions he not only sustained himself, but rose to eminence.

"But we forgot that these reminiscences possess no interest for general readers. The 'Auburn Journal' article warmed up our memory, and it has been running away with us."

In addition to the facts in the articles above quoted, it is proper to state that in Sept. 1816, the "Advocate of the People," was commenced by Henry C. Southwick, advocating what was then known as the "Low Salary Party." In 1827, the "Gospel Messenger," an Episcopal publication, was commenced by the Rev. Doct. Rudd—after a few years it was removed to Utica, where it is still published.

In 1833, the "Cayuga Democrat," was commenced by Frederick Prince.

In 1829, Henry Oliphant became the proprietor of the "Auburn Free Press," previously published by Richard Oliphant, which by uniting with the "Cayuga Republican," in 1833, till that time published by Thomas M. Skinner, gave rise to the "Auburn Journal and Advertiser," which continued in the hands of Henry Oliphant until Sept. 1846. The "Auburn Daily Advertiser" was commenced by Henry Oliphant in March, 1846, which, with the Journal, was disposed of at the time before stated, to Henry Montgomery, formerly of Lancaster, Pa.

The "Northern Christian Advocate," a Methodist paper was commenced in 1841. It is under the Editorial charge of Rev. Nelson Rounds, and has a weekly circulation of near 6,000.

The "Star of Temperance," by L. H. Dewey, was commenced in 1845, and, I believe, is still published by him.

In 1846, Professor Maffitt established a monthly publication, the object and design, or even the name of which, I have not learned. The number for December closed its existence.

All the facts in relation to the Press in this County have not been furnished, which it would have been desirable should have been placed upon record. Among others, a prominent omission occurs in not mentioning the name of Ulysses F. Doubleday, who was long and honorably connected with the "Cayuga Patriot." Mr. D. was also a Member of Congress from the Cayuga District, and was for a time, I believe, Keeper of the Auburn State Prison. If I am not mistaken he is now in the Bookselling business in the City of New-York.

## SENECA AND YATES COUNTIES.

It is to be regretted that a more particular and minute history of the Press of these two Counties could not have been obtained. E. J. Fowle has furnished what may be regarded more in the light of a personal history of himself, than a general one of the Press—in doing so, however, although himself a resident of Yates, he has given a mere glimpse of the early history of Printing in both these Counties.

In a letter to the Committee of Correspondence of the Franklin Festival, under date of Dec. 24, 1846, Mr. Fowle says: "I date my connection with the Press from 1816, when I commenced as an apprentice with Michael Hayes, in the office of the "Ovid Gazette." The County of Seneca had then just been cut up by the formation of Tompkins, and the Courts removed to Waterloo. The first paper ever printed in this County, the "Seneca Patriot," by George Lewis, had followed the location of the Courts. One object in starting the paper at Ovid was to get the Courts back half the time. This was accomplished after several years struggling. Lewis soon after this event sold out at Waterloo, to Hiram Leavenworth, who now, I believe, conducts the "Journal," at St. Catherines," C. W. [In 1827, when the Compositor of this entered upon his apprenticeship in the office of Wm. L. Mackenzie, at York, now Toronto, he recollects frequently to have heard the name of Mr. Leavenworth mentioned at a Journeyman having been employed in that office the year previous. That he is a good Printer and a gentleman of taste, the exceeding neatness of the paper which he continues to publish in the flourishing village of St. Catherines, affords ample proof. Unlike his old employer, it is believed Mr. L. is possessed of a goodly share of this world's goods, with which to supply the wants of the decline of life.] Mr. L. had not been long established, when, on account of some trifling misunderstanding with a few of the would-be office-holders of that day, he was invited one evening by one of the clique to a conference at the hotel, and while thus engaged, the others went into the Printing Office and stole and ran off with the Press, Types, and all, and the poor Printer returned only to find a vacant room. So much for the liberty of the Press!

"The appearance of most of the papers of those days would afford a rich treat, if copies could be found. They were generally of very small dimensions—were printed on some day during the week, the proprietors not being very particular which, and the date affording no evidence. Whenever the 'boss' or the boys had been lazy or frolicking too much, a column or two of the latest news in Great Primer or Double Pica, was set up by way of helping along. The advertisements were rendered very conspicuous by a caption in Cannon, and many of the cuts were of domestic manufacture, and would represent almost anything, 'without,' as the almanac makers used to say, 'material alteration.'"

Mr. Fowle remained in Ovid some five years—went to New-York, where he worked for Alden Spooner, and the Messrs. Harpers—returned to the West

--worked for William Ray, the Poet, at Geneva, and for B. B. Drake, at Waterloo, and again for a while at Ovid. In the fall of 1823, he went to Penn Yan, and started the "Yates Republican." Previous to this time, however, A. H. Bennett had commenced the "Penn Yan Herald," the name of which he soon changed to that of "Penn Yan Democrat," and which is still continued by his son, Clement V. Bennett, and Alfred Reed. Mr. F. continued the "Yates Republican" something like twelve years, when he abandoned the Press and Types for "Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, and Hardware," in which business he is still engaged. The paper, under various titles and proprietors, is still continued. Since he quit it, J. A. Hadley, now of Rochester,—Gilbert, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and William Childs have had charge of it.—It is now in the hands of Rodney L. Adams; the daily called the "Telegraph," and the weekly the "Yates County Whig."

There is also a paper published in Yates County, at Dundee, called the "Dundee Record," but I know not by whom, or how long it has been published.

### TIOGA COUNTY.

The materials from which to furnish a history of the Press in this County, are meagre in the extreme. Mr. Calhoun, the Editor of the Oswego Advertiser, has supplied the only data from which any facts can be gathered in relation to it, and he complains that others, from whom he had a right to expect assistance in the matter, have failed to give him any whatever.

The "American Farmer" was established by Stephen Mack, somewhere about the year 1800. In 1815, it was purchased by Stephen B. Leonard, since Member of Congress from this District, who changed the name to the "Oswego Gazette."—Mr. Leonard conducted it 20 years, and sold out in 1835, to Shurtleff & Bull. This firm was dissolved in 1837, and the paper was carried on by J. B. Shurtleff till February, 1839, when his office with its contents was destroyed by fire. In May, the same year, the "Gazette" was again started by E. P. Marble, who continued to publish it about two years, when it passed into the hands of C. C. Thomas, under the Editorial charge of Alanson Munger. Mr. Thomas published the paper seven months and sold out to Thomas C. Wood, who employed Gideon O. Chase as Editor. In 1843, another paper bearing the name of the "Owego Gazette," was established, by H. A. Babe, formerly of Towanda, Pa. In 1844, Wood's "Gazette" went down, and Babe continued to publish the other until July, 1845, when he sold out to Thomas Pearsall, who continued in charge of it until May, 1846, when he sold to D. & C. F. Wallis, by whom it is now carried on.

Attempts were made at various times to establish a second paper, and the "Republican," by Mr. Chatterton, was in existence nearly a year, about 1833. In 1836, A. H. Calhoun established the "Owego Advertiser," which is now continued by him.

## WYOMING COUNTY.

This County originally, or at least all except what has been taken from Allegany and added to it since its separate organization as a County, belonged to Genesee. In this County, as in most others, a disposition has existed, to augment, unnecessarily, the numbers of Newspapers. In many cases they were not demanded by the business wants of the County, and as a necessary consequence, their existence has been fleeting and ephemeral. It is hoped past experience will operate favorably upon future enterprise.

The first paper printed in what is now Wyoming County, at Warsaw, was in 1828, by L. & W. Walker, and was called the "Genesee Register." It did not number six months when it expired.

The "Warsaw Sentinel" was established by Andrew W. Young, in May, 1830. He continued its publication until December, 1831, when he purchased the "Republican Advocate," at Batavia, and merged the "Sentinel" in that paper.

In 1833 or '34, David Scott established in the Village of Attica a paper called the "Attica Republican." How long it was continued, I am unable to say, but it is stated to have eventually run into the "Attica Balance," by E. A. Cooley, Mr. Scott continuing a regular, or occasional, contributor to its Editorial department, until it underwent another change, and came out the "Attica Democrat" under the entire control of Mr. Cooley. It thus continued until 1846, when it ceased to exist.

In 1834, the "Genesee Recorder" was established at Perry, by George M. Shipper. It did not live out its first year.

The "American Citizen" was established by an association of gentlemen, at Warsaw, in 1836. It was printed by J. A. Hadley, and for the first few months was under the editorial supervision of A. W. Young, after which time it was assumed by Mr. Hadley, and the paper was thus continued for one year, when it was removed to Perry, and published by Mitchell & Warren. Soon after this event, Mr. Ansel Warren retired, leaving it in the hands of Mr. David Mitchell, who continued it until January, 1841, when it was removed to Rochester, where it was published one or two years, and then discontinued.

It 1838, a paper was established at Pike, and at first was called the "Pike Whig," but was afterwards changed to the "Pike Gazette." It was conducted by Thomas Carrier, and lived about one year. It was established to further the project of creating a new County, whose "seat of government" should be at Pike.

In 1839, Ansel Warren, in the office of the "American Citizen," published "The Watchtower," for the Baptist Association. It was edited by Elder Elon Galusha, and Rev. Charles Van Loon. It lived but one year.

In 1840, a campaign paper was printed at Perry, called "The Register," under the Editorial management of Isaac N. Stoddard and John H. Bailey.

In 1841, the "Perry Democrat" was established at the Village of Perry under the Editorial charge of Peter Lawrence. It is still continued by him.

The "Western New-Yorker" was commenced at Perry, in January, 1841. It was at first edited by John H. Bailey, who was afterwards succeeded by Barlow & Woodward, and by them the paper was removed to Warsaw, in the summer of the same year, soon after the location of the County buildings. It was published by these gentlemen until January, 1842, when Mr. Woodward retired, leaving it in the hands of Mr. Barlow.—In November of the same year, Samuel S. Blanchard entered the concern, and continued with Mr. Barlow until January, 1843, when Mr. Barlow retired, leaving it in the hands of his partner, by whom it is still published.

In 1843, "The Countryman" was established at Perry, by N. S. Woodward. It was intended as a successor to the "American Citizen." It soon passed into the hands of Daniel S. Curtis, and its title was changed to "The Impartial Countryman." It was thus continued until August, 1846, when Ansel Warren appeared as its conductor, and issued the paper under the title of the "Free Citizen." It has now, however, just departed this life, having died about the 1st of April, of the present year, of that dreadful malady, so fatal to many of the Newspapers of Western New-York—want of sufficient patronage.

In 1844, the "Wyoming Republican" was commenced at Warsaw, by E. L. Fuller. Its publication was discontinued about the first of March, 1847.

The "Attica Telegraph" was established in the Village of Attica, in October, 1846, by Abraham Dinsmore. It is still published by him.

The "Christian Investigator," is published at the office of the late "Free Citizen," and edited by William Goodell.

Of those who have been, or now are, interested in the Newspaper Press of Wyoming, I propose to say a few words. Andrew W. Young is mentioned in the "Recollections of the Press," of another County. In addition to what is there stated, I will simply remark, that he is now engaged in the State of Ohio, in publishing a work similar to the one put forth in this State, on the "Science of Government"—and with every prospect of complete success.

David Scott has left the Editorial Chair entirely, and is now devoting himself to the active business duties of life—a Merchant, Miller, &c. At one time he was a Member of the Legislature from this County. His political course has been rather erratic, and it is a favorite remark of his, "that upon a Presidential Election, he is never in the minority." Whether this implies change, on the part of David, or the parties of the day, is left for others to decide. I mention the fact, simply to show the peculiar character of the man. He possesses considerable force of mind, and withal, many good qualities.



[J. A. Hadley. This gentleman, as will be seen in the preceding pages, has had much to do with the Newspaper Press in Western New-York. He has taken an active part in two Festivals held in Rochester, and, it will be observed is a member of the Committee for the publication of these proceedings. It is with regret, however, that we learn he is about to leave the city, and the superintendence of the Democrat office—a situation which he has occupied for the last eight years, doubtless, to the entire satisfaction of the employers and employed of that establishment—and contemplates soon to remove to Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. He designs publishing a paper in that town on his arrival there, to be entitled the "Watertown Chronicle." Mr. H. is one of the tallest specimens of the Craft, being six feet four inches in stature, which is only two inches less than that of his fellow-craftsman, Long John Wentworth, of Illinois. He is a clever soul, and every inch a gentleman, and we most cordially wish him in his projected enterprise, that success and prosperity to which he is so justly entitled.—Eds American.]

Samuel S. Blanchard is still at the head of the "Western New-Yorker," and it is but justice to say, that in his hands, the paper has been well and creditably sustained.

Abraham Dinsmore was formerly an apprentice in the office of the writer of these pages—and without meaning or intending any disparagement to others who may have occupied a similar position, I trust I may be permitted to bear testimony to the great fidelity with which he discharged his obligations while thus situated. Since that time his course has not been so familiar to me. In a business point of view, I wish him the most unbounded success.

Of some of those engaged in the Press in this County, I know nothing of their personal history—while others have been noticed elsewhere.

#### GENESEE COUNTY.

The Newspaper Press in this County, in its struggling infancy, has had the same difficulties to contend with, that have beset the attempt in other Western Counties. The following history of its rise, progress, and present condition, is supposed to be correct, or nearly so, in almost every particular, although to gather these facts together has been the result of considerable labor.

The first paper printed in the County of Genesee was established at Batavia, then, as now, the County Seat, in the spring of 1807. At the date, or near it, indicated below, I addressed a letter to Benjamin Blodgett, Esq., asking information in relation to the early history of the Press in this County. I received the following letter from him, and I cannot do better justice to the subject than by copying the letter entire. It is as follows:—

Pembroke, Nov. 25, 1846.

"Friend Follett:—I this morning received your note asking information



of the 'rise and progress of the Art of Printing' in this County. I regret I am not able to give you a more minute account. Not having preserved a file of my old papers, I have to depend merely upon memory. The first paper established in this County was in the spring of 1807. Elias Williams purchased in Manlius, an old Ramage Printing Press that had been laid aside as useless, and a Box of Old Type in pi, intended to sell for Type metal, and brought them, in the winter of that year, to Batavia. After a laborious winter's work of assorting his old Type, and patching up the old Press, he published the first number of a paper called the 'Genesee Intelligencer.' This paper was printed upon a half sheet of Medium size, with a subscription list of 100, and two or three columns of advertisements from the Holland Land Company, one Elopement, and one Runaway Apprentice Boy, for whose apprehension a Bag of Bran was offered as a reward. \* This was all the advertising patronage, if my recollection serves me right, that the paper commenced with. The paper was a sorry looking thing—the mechanical execution being so bad that it would have puzzled a Philadelphia Lawyer to find out what it was. I ought to have preserved a copy—it would be looked upon by the craft at this day, not only as a literary but a mechanical curiosity. Williams becoming disheartened at the shabby appearance of his paper, and about to fail for the want of funds, induced me to go into partnership with him. Anxious to see my name at the head of a newspaper, as Printer, Publisher, and Editor, too, of the 'Genesee Intelligencer,' I embarked my all of this world's effects in the enterprise, which amounted to the vast sum of forty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents, the hard earnings of the summer before, as Pack Horseman and Cook to a company of Surveyors on the Holland Purchase—a pursuit better fitted to my capacity, at that day, than Editor of the 'Genesee Intelligencer.'

"About the first of July, 1807, the firm of Williams & Blodgett resumed the publication of the 'Intelligencer' with an increased subscription list and advertising patronage. After publishing 13 numbers, Williams went to Alexander to attend a Military Review, and has never since been seen or heard of in this country. This unceremonious leave-taking of Williams put a mighty damper upon the prospects of Mr. Editor Blodgett, who instead of realizing the golden dreams he had anticipated, found himself involved in debt about \$300, flat on his back with the fever and ague, which continued about six months without intermission; and for the want of help, not being a practical Printer myself, was obliged to abandon the publication of the 'Intelligencer.'† However, in the spring of 1808, I rallied again, and in company with a man by the name of Peck, I started the 'Cornucopia,' (a

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\* The advertisement no doubt was written by the printer, as they are usually called upon to perform such little duties, and the reward was no doubt suggested to his mind for the reason that the paper was published in a portion of the Mill, a room being set apart for that purpose.

† It is worthy of remark, that the enterprise undertaken by Mr. Blodgett was entirely new to him, he never having seen the inside of a printing office until about the time he entered the "Intelligencer" establishment as part proprietor and editor.

very classic name,) with an enlarged sheet and new type, under the firm of Peek & Blodgett, with a subscription list of about 300. In the fall of 1811, Peek was taken sick and died, and with his death the 'Cornucopia' went down.

"I then, under the mechanical superintendence of David C. Miller, (afterwards Colonel, with his little Cane and Breeches,) commenced the publication of the 'Republican Advocate,' with a new Press and new Type, and continued its publication for several years, when I sold out to Colonel Miller, who became sole proprietor of that paper.

"Your friend,

"BENJAMIN BLODGETT."

This was the first paper ever established, I believe, which was called the "Advocate." Since that time, however, many a bantling has sprung into existence bearing that cognomen.

The "Republean Advocate" continued in the hands, and under the direction of Col. Miller until April, 1828, when he took into Co-partnership Charles Sentell, by whom it was conducted until July, 1829, when it passed into the hands of Charles W. Miller, and was continued by him until the 21st of Nov. 1831, when he died. The paper was continued without any acknowledged proprietor, until the 17th of January, 1832, when it passed into the hands of Edwin Hough and Andrew W. Young, the latter gentleman having been engaged in the publication of the "Warsaw Sentinel." On the 13th Nov. 1832, Hough left the establishment in the hands of Young. On the 8th of April, 1835, Young transferred the office to Lewis & Brown, who continued the paper for three weeks, and then it reverted back again to Mr. Young. The establishment was then sold to C. C. Allen, who continued its publication for four weeks, when he surrendered the establishment to Mr. Young again. Young printed a half sheet to give the paper an existence, and then, on the 8th of June, 1835, sold out to Waite & Cooley. This co-partnership continued until the 16th of Sept. of the same year, when Cooley retired from the establishment, leaving it in the hands of Mr. Waite, by whom it is still continued.

On the 3rd day of February, 1819, the first number of the "Spirit of the Times," was issued at Batavia, by Oran Follett, on which occasion the writer of this made his first attempt at Type setting. The "Times" was continued by the same proprietor until May, 1825, when Frederick Follett, purchased the establishment of his brother, and was duly installed Editor and Proprietor, and continued as such until August, 1836, when being fired by an extra love of liberty, and desiring to participate in the struggle then in progress in Texas, sold the establishment to a number of gentlemen, and repaired to the country of the "Lone Star." The establishment was then placed in the hands of Nelson D. Wood, who continued at its head until the writer's return, who, on the 17th of August, 1837, again found himself at the head of the "Times," and continued in that capacity until the 11th of June, 1840,

when the "Times," passed into the hands of Lucas Seaver, who continued its publication until the 28th of January, 1845, when he disposed of it to William Seaver, and William A. Seaver, by whom it is still continued under the firm of Wm. Seaver & Son.

The publication of the "Leroy Gazette" was commenced in the village of that name, about the year 1826, by J. O. Baich, who continued it until 1827, when he disposed of it to Starr & Hotchkiss, who continued in partnership about a year and a half, when Hotchkiss retired, and sometime in 1828 Henry D. Ward became associated with Mr. Starr in its publication, and thus continued until 1832, when Ward left the establishment in the hands of Mr. Starr. In 1833 Richard Hollister became the owner, Starr continuing as the publisher. In 1835, Rufus Robertson became part owner, and in 1836, sole proprietor of the establishment, and then in connection with F. L. Goodrich, as partner continued the paper until Jan'y 1838, when Robertson disposed of his interest to Seth M. Gates and Martin O. Coe, by whom, with Goodrich as the owner of the other half, it was continued until Nov. or Dec. 1838, when it passed into the hands of Cyrus Thompson, who continued its publication until June, 1840, when the present proprietor, C. B. Thompson, became the owner and has since continued the publication of the "Leroy Gazette"

In the year 1829, Orestes A. Brownson, as Editor, and Freeman & Son, as Printers, commenced the publication, in the village of Leroy, of the "Genesee Republican and Herald of Reform," which had an existence of a year or two, and was then discontinued.

The "People's Press," owned by an association of individuals, and printed by Benjamin Blodgett, was commenced in the village of Batavia, in 1825, and was continued by Mr. Blodgett for about a year, when it passed into the hands of Martin, Adams & Thorp. Soon after Mr. Martin retired from the establishment leaving it in the hands of Adams & Thorp—another change soon after took place, and the establishment passed into the hands of Adams & McCleary. The paper was afterwards merged in the "Spirit of the Times" and finally its name has become extinct.

The "Morgan Investigator" was the title of a small paper published at the office of the "Republican Advocate" soon after the excitement of 1826 broke out. It was continued about a year and then expired. Its title is a sufficient indication of the purposes of its origin.

The "Masonic Intelligencer" was also started about the same period, and for purposes directly the reverse of the former. It was published at the office of the "People's Press." It attained about the same age.

The "Farmer's and Mechanic's Journal," published at Alexander by Peter Lawrence, was commenced on the 4th day of Nov, 1837. It was continued there until its purchase and removal to Batavia in June, 1840.

On leaving the office of the "Spirit of the Times," June 11th, 1840, the writer of this in connection with Peter Lawrence, who until that time had

published the "Farmer's and Mechanic's Journal," at Alexander, commenced, in the village of Batavia, the publication of the "Batavia Times and Farmers and Mechanics Journal," the first number of which paper was issued on the 15th day of June, 1840. Lawrence continued in the establishment for two or three months, when the writer took the establishment into his own hands, and continued its publication until the 20th of Sept., 1843, when the "good will" of the establishment was disposed of to Lucas Seaver, who was then the proprietor of the "Spirit of the Times."

The "Temperance Herald" was the title of a small paper printed by Lucas Seaver, and issued from the office of the "Spirit of the Times." The first number was issued in March, 1842, and was continued for one year. It was devoted, as is implied by its title, to the cause of Temperance.

The "Genesee Courier," by E. Bliss, was established at Leroy in the Spring of 1844. It was continued about one year, and was then discontinued. Mr. Bliss is now publishing a paper at Racine, Wisconsin.

Having gone through with an enumeration of the different Newspapers established in this County for the last forty years, my task may be considered as ended. But what has become of the founders of those establishments? This inquiry is an interesting one, and it may not be wholly unprofitable to give the answer.

Elias Williams, the pioneer of the Newspaper Press in this county, as has before been stated, left the field of his early labors in a most abrupt and unceremonious manner—and, as stated, has never since been seen or heard of in this county. Whether he was spirited away, by some of the evil geniuses, who in early times were associated with the Craft in the minds of the vulgar or uninformed—or whether he was actuated by a more noble and magnanimous principle, and "left his country for his country's good," is really more than I can say. It however has been suggested to us by his old partner, that the reason why Williams thus made himself scarce in these parts, was this:—Previous to the review in question both proprietors of the "Intelligencer"—(Printers are celebrated for their military propensities\*)—were elected Corporals of a Company in Batavia, and on re-

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\* Friend Follett is correct in his opinion relative to the martial spirit of the Craft. Who ever doubted the heroism and bravery of Printers? They are naturally a generous, whole-souled set of fellows, and always first to espouse the cause of their country, liberty, and humanity, and to stand up manfully in defence thereof. The following incident which occurred at the seat of war in Mexico, will show the large number of the members of the profession in our army:

"General Scott, on a recent occasion, wanted to have some general orders printed at a given time. He sent directions to the office of the "Tampico Sentinel" to have them done. He was told that in consequence of the scarcity of compositors, the work could not be accomplished. He then, on the morning parade, ordered all Printers to step forward three paces from the ranks, when several hundred men—all Printers—obeyed the order."

In the war between Texas and Mexico, the Craft were equally chivalrous, and the ludicrous feat of capturing Santa Anna by treeling him, it is well known, was performed by a Printer.

pairing to Alexander to be reviewed, Williams thought, especially as it was the bounden duty of military men to fight, that he would get up a little bit of a row—and as it generally happens in such cases that somebody must get licked, the lot fell, most unfortunately, upon Williams. Having got most essentially thrashed out—both eyes put in mourning, for the sins of the inner man, I suppose, he decamped. One thing, however, is certain—Williams has left an interregnum in his history which it is impossible for me to supply, and I am therefore compelled thus to leave his name wrapped in mystery and doubt.

Benjamin Blodgett, the next in order as the pioneer of Printing in this County is still living. After catering for many years, for the appetite of the reading public, he abandoned the Printing business, and commenced catering for the traveling public. Who that has travelled on the great thoroughfare to Buffalo, before the introduction and completion of the iron roads, does not remember the "Richville Cottage?" It was a frequent remark of travellers, that at no place between Albany and Buffalo, did they fare so well or so bountifully, as at the "Cottage"—and this was kept by our old friend Benjamin Blodgett, who still resides at Pembroke, and I hope he may long continue in the enjoyment of the blessings of this life. Speaking of the "Richville Cottage," brings to our mind a very happy notice of our old friend which originally appeared in the "Knickerbocker," written by the lamented Willis Gaylord Clark, in 1836, and is as follows:—

"Traveler!—as thou wendest towards the West, if thou art within some fifteen miles of Batavia, and thinkest of pausing for the night, rescind the mental resolution, and post on to that town. There shalt thou experience a good bed, and delicious rest, with the murmur of the Tonnawanta breathing upon the night air thy quiet lullaby. Do this; to the end that, rising in the morning, thou go to Richville, and there to breakfast, which is an hospitable town, and hath an hotel whose superior is not to be found, whether they go to the south-west or north-west, or indeed to any point of the compass. Comfortable and expeditious Blodgett! The voluminousness of thy periphery indicateth the epicure; upon the pullets thou sacrificest, are the pin-feathers of youth; thy warm cakes are done deliciously brown; thy yellow butter, thy irreproachable eggs, thy unimpeachable coffee—my mnemonic palate remembers them all. Murder Creek, too is in thy vicinity; as it goes moaning onward under the rude bridge that spans it, the reflection of bright red mills upon its shore as they give back the sunbeam, gives it murder's proper hue and 'damned spot.' The tradition is, that a poor crazy old man was killed here by the Indians, many years ago, in the early settlement of the country:

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In Paris, too, in July, 1830, when Charles X., King of the French, attempted to stifle the Liberty of the Press, did not the Printers turn out en masse? Such was the terrific character of the revolution which ensued, that it has since been appropriately styled "the great three days in Paris." The liberties of the people were preserved, although at the expense of the lives of thousands, whose blood was made to flow in torrents in the streets of that city!—Eds. American.



"May he be true, may he be no so:

We'll grant it is, and let it go so."

At any rate, (Blodgett, I thank thee for the sentence,) if Richville hath the memory of death, it hath likewise, and in full profusion, the means of life."

——Peek, whose first name I have not been able to learn, although diligent inquiry has been made, died in this Village in the fall of 1811, while engaged in the publication, with Blodgett, of the "Cornucopia."

David C. Miller. It cannot be denied but what Miller possessed a very considerable degree of talent, and a reasonable share of shrewdness. All will remember the conspicuous part he bore in the exciting times which followed the abduction of William Morgan, in 1826. Miller was afterwards elected County Clerk—took the stump as a candidate for Congress—was defeated, and finally left in 1832, or '33, cursing the party, or its leaders, as guilty of ingratitude. The last intelligence of this man located him at Cleveland, Ohio.

Oran Follett continued the publication of the "Spirit of the Times," until 1825, when he sold out. In the fall of 1824, he was returned a member of the Legislature from this County. After disposing of the "Times," he united with Day & Haskins in the publication of a paper at Buffalo. From thence he removed to Sandusky City, Ohio, where he now resides, and is President of the Board of Public Works in that State.

Frederick Follett, his successor in the publication of the "Times," continued it from 1825 until 1840, with an interruption of one year—then published the Times & Journal, until 1843—since which time he has been serving the public in the capacity of Post Master of the Village of Batavia.

J. O. Balch, the founder of the "LeRoy Gazette," the last I heard of him, he was a resident of the State of Illinois. Whether he is still in the Printing business, or what are his prospects in life, is more than I can say.

Elisha Starr is still living, and a resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin—a clever, good natured, easy soul, well calculated to pioneer the way to fortune for others, but never ready to grasp it for himself. I hope the "blind goddess" will yet see fit to force a fortune upon him.

Beriah B. Hotchkin. The whereabouts of this branch of the Corps Editorial of Genesee County is unknown to me.

Henry D. Wade, some years since, took up his line of march for the West, and at one time was figuring as Cashier of a Bank in Illinois.

There were a number of owners of the "Gazette" after this, but as they did not belong to the Craft, we are disposed to pass them by until we come to

Franklin L. Goodrich. This gentleman is still in the land of the living—and at present has charge of the mechanical part of the Republican Advocate.



Cyrus Thompson, who had charge of the "Gazette" from 1838 to 1840, has left the case and taken a stand upon the soil. In other words, he has turned farmer.

Charles B. Thompson, who is now the editor and proprietor of the "Gazette," is doing better, I hope, in the way of his profession than his predecessors. The paper seems to be better sustained, and has every indication of affording a good living.

Orestes A. Brownson, who edited the "Genesee Republican," is now, and has been for a number of years, the Editor of the New England Review—a man of great and acknowledged talent, but somewhat ultra and impracticable in his views. The following story is told in connection with this gentleman:—Some years since, while in England, the Hon. Daniel Webster called upon Lord Brougham. Various topics formed the theme of conversation, until finally the literature of America was touched upon. Being aware that Webster and Brownson were inhabitants of the same city, Lord Brougham made the following inquiry of his visitor:—"I suppose, Mr. Webster, you are well acquainted with Mr. Brownson?" With real or affected ignorance of the subject of the inquiry, Mr. Webster replied "Brownson, Brownson—what Brownson do you mean, Sir?" "Why O. A. Brownson, to be sure, Sir." "I do not know the man," replied Mr. Webster. "Well, then," answered Lord Brougham, "permit me to tell you, Sir, that you have not the honor of an acquaintance with one of the greatest writers in America!"

Andrew W. Young is still living. He resides at Warsaw, in the County of Wyoming. Since leaving the Printing business, Mr. Young has turned author, and his work upon "Science of Government," designed for a School Book, has met with an extensive sale, and is deservedly popular. Mr. Young has been twice elected to the Legislature from Wyoming, and was returned a member of the late Convention to revise the Constitution of this State, from the same County.

Lewis & Brown. The former gentleman is the Editor of a paper at Marshall, Michigan, where he has resided for some years. Mr. Brown, I believe, is also printing a paper in Michigan.

C. C. Allen prints the "Sciota Gazette," at Chilicothe, Ohio, and if the appearances of the paper indicate anything, he is doing well.

Daniel D. Waite still presides at the head of the "Republican Advocate," and unlike his predecessors in the Printing Business in Batavia by good management and strict economy, has been able to sustain himself respectably, and lay by something for a rainy day. I certainly rejoice at this, although it is unlike the luck of Printers generally. We hope his case may always be full.

E. A. Cooley, who was at one time concerned in the publication of the "Republican Advocate," and who afterwards published a paper in Attica, Wyoming County, is now publishing a paper at Beloit, Wisconsin Territory.

Daniel P. Adams, for some time one of the publishers of the "People's Press," like too many of the Craft, belongs to that order of men whose pilgrimage through life seems always to be "up hill." Honest and industrious, he makes a good living. After leaving Batavia, he published a paper at Black Rock. He is now a journeyman in Buffalo.

John Throp, another publisher of the "People's Press," went to New-Orleans, and fell a victim soon after, to the prevailing fever of that region.

David C. McCleary, who was also, at one time, the Editor of the "People's Press," now slumbers with the silent dead. Mr. McCleary was a young man of no ordinary talent. He was an easy and forcible writer, and had he lived, would have become conspicuous among the writers of the age. But his health was always feeble, which finally compelled him to abandon the active duties of life. He repaired to the home of his childhood, in Vermont, but it was only to mingle his ashes with those who had preceded him in the drama of life. His death was universally regretted. He was a brother-in-law of Col. William Seaver, of this Village, and now the senior Editor of the "Times."

Peter Lawrence, originally of the "Farmers & Mechanics' Journal," and afterwards associated with Frederick Follett in the publication of the "Times & Journal," is now Editor of the "Perry Democrat." Mr. Lawrence is a rare genius—full of humor, wit and jovial good feeling—a fast friend and an unflinching enemy. Like too many of the same profession, he is satisfied with doing well, without attempting to do better.

Lucas Seaver. It is far more difficult to speak of the living, than the dead. The subject now under consideration is, in every sense of the word, a living one. He was, in years gone by, an apprentice in the office of the writer of this, and for that reason, if for no other, I feel that I am privileged to speak with freedom. With warm and generous impulses, misfortune never appeals to him in vain, and he too often permits these impulses to displace from its seat the trite, but too frequently neglected adage, "charity begins at home." He is firm in his friendship—jovial, kind-hearted, and generous in his intercourse with his companions; firm, manly, and unflinching in his walk through life thus far. I can only hope in his case, and this hope is extended to all of whom I have spoken, that his case may always be full—that he may never run out of sorts—and that when the last token shall be finished and the form locked up for its final transition, he, with them, may be distributed among the great font of the blest, without a monk or a friar to mar the beauty of their last page.

## GENERAL REMARKS

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I have endeavored in the preceding pages to give as faithful a History of the Newspaper Press of Western New-York, as the materials furnished me, and my own recollection on the subject will permit. If, in reference to some of the Counties, that history is not so close and full as could have been desired, the fault is attributed to those who ought to have felt most solicitude on the subject; but who, from negligence, or it may be, the press of other avocations, have omitted to communicate, although repeatedly requested to do so by the Committee of Correspondence previous to the Festival, and subsequently by the Committee of Publication, with either of those Committees or with myself, furnishing such facts as would have contributed to the correction of the same.—Two Counties, Allegany and Tompkins, I have been compelled to leave out entirely, and for reasons wholly beyond my control. Persons in those Counties supposed to be competent have been notified of the intentions of those Committees, and that it was very desirable that the work should be full and complete, so far as the Counties embraced in the scope of the Committee were concerned—but all to no effect.

Among those who may be regarded as belonging to the older class of settlers of this interesting portion of New-York these reminiscences must have the effect of renewing scenes and events long past, and that otherwise might have slumbered in oblivion. Among Printers, they will possess a peculiar interest. The changes and improvements that have been made in the Newspaper Press for the last fifty years, have been truly wonderful—and although this remark is true in relation to the whole country, still it has peculiar force when applied to this part of the State.—From a humble and precarious business, it has risen to one of gigantic magnitude. From the home-made wooden Press, with worn and indifferent type, and with scarcely a sufficiency of those to set up a seven-by-nine sheet, may now be seen the beautiful Power Press, propelled by steam, with type of the most exquisite shape and finish. More is now accomplished in minutes, than used to be performed in hours! Any one who will take the trouble to visit the magnificent Printing Establishments in Rochester and Buffalo, will admit the truthfulness of this remark.—This branch of business has fully kept pace with the other improvements of the day, and added very greatly to the general, and I may add, the almost universal diffusion of knowledge and information among the people.

Now, as formerly, there is a too prevalent error among the people, or at least a certain class of them, aided more or less by the ready credulity of members of the Craft, to augment the number of Newspaper establishments. It is too often the case, that young and inexperienced members of the profession suffer themselves to be made the dupes of aspiring political demagogues, and senseless, but noisy, reformers of the ills of life, and are thus induced to embark in the busy turmoil of the day, without any substantial basis upon which to rest their hopes of success. To this cause, no doubt, may be attributed most of the failures that have attended the establishment of the Press, in this, as well as other portions of the state. Success in such cases is scarcely to be expected, and, indeed, ought not to be desired.—

Young men should be particularly cautious about embarking in such enterprises, as a first failure, generally speaking, haunts them through life,—loading them down, with hopeless debts, and damping their ardor for future combats, and a successful struggle with the enterprise of the day.

I must be permitted before closing these remarks, to bear my most unqualified approbation to the good that must inevitably result to the profession—and if to them, to the public also—in the due observance of the annual return of the natal day of their fellow-craftsman, the great, and ever-to-be-remembered, Franklin. The Printers of Rochester were the first to move in this matter, in Western New-York—nobly and generously have they carried it forward thus far. They deserve, and I doubt not, will receive, the thanks of the Craft generally. Such a gathering of the Craft—entertaining as they do, various and discordant opinions on many of the exciting topics of the day—is calculated to do good. It tends so soften the asperities of party strife—gives them better conceptions of one another, and leads to the cultivation of a personal good will, that cannot fail to exhibit itself in the prosecution of their individual business. Let the annual return of the day, therefore, be hailed with joy and delight by the Printers of Western New-York.

HAROLD E. PICKERSGILL  
Printer  
Perth Amboy, New Jersey.























